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THE RATIONALIST

A Weekly

for the intelligent man, devoted to a rationalistic survey of all matters of Public interest, in the economic, commercial, and literary fields.

Proprietor & Editor : G. R. JOSYER, M.A., F.R.E.S.

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INDIAN FIGURES

Six crores out of India's 36-crore population, or 16·6 per cent, are literate i.e., they can read and write a simple letter in some language, according to the 1951 census. The remaining 30 crores are illiterate.

An analysis of the information on literacy and education obtained in the 1951 census has been published by the Registrar-General in his "Census of India, Paper V".

Of the six crores who are literate, about six lakhs can only read, but cannot write. Over five crores of the literate population do not even have a middle school standard of education. The number of people who have attained that standard is only 90 lakhs. Of these, only 38 lakhs or a little more than one in a hundred among the people have passed the higher secondary school standard. Sixteen lakhs of the 38 lakhs have reached still higher standard of education; 4·66 lakhs have attained up to Intermediate in Arts and Science and 11·7 lakhs are holders of degrees and diplomas.

The literacy figures given in the paper are based on a 10 per cent sample survey while the tables on educational standards by livelihood classes are based on the entire population.

While the All-India percentage of literacy is 16·6, West India has the largest percentage of 23·8 while North India the lowest with 10·8.

The percentages for other zones are: South India 22·8, East India 16·3, North-West India 13·3 and Central India 10·9.

Literacy is higher among men than among women. The percentages for the whole country are: Male literacy 24·9 and female literacy 7·9.

South India has the largest female literacy with 13·5 per cent and North India the lowest with 3·6 per cent.

The percentage of female literacy in other zones are: West India 12·6, North-West India 6·8, East India 6·6, and Central India 3·8.

According to the livelihood classes 12·1 per cent of the agricultural classes are literate while 29·0 per cent of the non-agricultural classes are literate.

The percentage of literacy among the eight livelihood classes into which the population was divided for the 1951 census are:

Cultivators of land, wholly or mainly owned and their dependents, 13·3 per cent (21·8 males and 4·5 females); Cultivators of land, wholly or mainly unowned and their dependents: 11·2 per cent (13·3 males and 4·8 females); Cultivating labourers and their dependents: 6 2 per cent (10·0 males and 2·5 females); Non-cultivating owners of land, agricultural rent receivers and their dependents: 32·8 per cent (47·7 males and 20·4 females).

persons, including dependents, deriving their principal livelihood from production, other than cultivation: 22·2 per cent (32·3 males and 10·8 females); persons depending on commerce for livelihood: 37·9 per cent, (51·6 of males and 22.6 of females).

persons depending on transport for livelihood: 32·7 per cent (41·7 males and 21·7 females).

Persons depending on other services and miscellaneous sources for livelihood: 30·5 per cent, (40·6 males and 19·4 females).

The paper also publishes an index of literacy based on another yard-stick. Since all children below five years and even some above must normally be illiterate, the index has been drawn up on the basis of percentage of literates aged ten and over to the total number of people aged ten and over. These indices show that out of 100 men living in urban areas, 54·6 are literates and of every 100 women in urban areas 27·0 are literate. In rural areas, of every 100 men, 24·0 are literates and of every 100 women, 6·0 are literates.

Zone-wise the percentages show great variations:

North India: Urban 48·0 males and 20.4 females. Rural: 17·6 males and 2·2 females.

East India: Urban 52·9 males and 31·6 female; Rural 24·2 males and 5·3 females.

South India: Urban 59·1 males and 30·8 females. Rural: 34·8 males and 12·7 females.

West India: Urban 62·4 males and 31·7 females; Rural: 33·1 males and 8·1 females.

Central India: Urban 50·5 males and 19·1 females; Rural: 17·1 males and 2.0 females.

North-West India: Urban 45·0 males and 21 0 females; Rural 14·0 males and 3 3 females.

The literate persons, who have attained some educational standards, have been analysed in separate tables Statewise and according to various livelihood classes.

Of the six crores of literates, only 38 lakhs have passed the higher secondary school standard for the country as a whole. They are thus eleven out of 1,000 persons or 64 out of 1,000 literate persons. These 38 lakhs include five lakhs of women. The number of women, who have passed the higher secondary school standard, is only three out of every 8,000 women or four out of every thousand literate women.

Of the sixteen lakhs who have reached standards higher than higher secondary, 407 thousand males and 59,000 females have reached upto intermediate in arts and science.

Among holders of degrees and diplomas 993,304 are males and 183,094 are females.

Of the degree or diploma holders, 284,008 males and 36,944 females are graduates in arts and science, 57,918 males and 6,837 females are post-graduates in arts and science, 150,812 males and 37,777 females in teaching, 63,763 males and 873 females in law, 63,884 males and 806 females in health and medicine, 35,022 males and 632 females in engineering, 31,585 males and 1,035 females in commerce, 8,259 males and 243 females in agriculture and 4112 males and 225 females in veterinary. Degrees or diplomas in other subjects account for 293,243 males and 90,442 females.

A SISTER'S ESTIMATE

Mr. Nehru was described recently by his 48-year-old sister, Krishna Nehru Hutheesing, as a man with all the makings of a dictator in him.

She wrote in a New York magazine that power as leader of India's millions has had the effect of perhaps coarsening him to some extent.

"He calls himself a Democrat and Socialist, and no doubt he does so in all earnestness. But a little twist and Nehru might turn dictator, sweeping aside the paraphernalia of a slow moving democracy."

Hutheesing said the "makings of a dictator" in Nehru included "vast popularity, a strong will, ability, hardness, an intolerance of others, and a certain contempt for the weak and inefficient.

She went on: "In this revolutionary epoch Caesarism is always at the door.

"Is it not possible that he might fancy himself a Caesar ?.....Therein lies danger for Nehru and for India."

Hutheesing said her brother "nowadays brooks no criticism and will not even suffer advice gladly."

She wrote of his admiration for Britain and added, "In India, as well as England, his friendship with Lord and Lady Mountbatten (Lord Mountbatten was the last British Viceroy of India) has been much talked of and criticised.

"They remain, however, his closest personal friends."

* * *

We think that it is high time that Mr. Nehru provided something decent for this sister also. He should not provide one sister with the best of things and maintain her like a queen, and leave the other entirely in the lurch.

No wonder if she gives him a bit of her mind in public. Editor.

The Rationalist

SRIMAD BHAGAVATA, II

If there were an Oscar for meritorious journalism in India, as there is in U.S.A. it would be awarded to Srijuts Jayadayal Goendka and Hanuman Prasad Poddar, the sponsors of the "Kalyana Kalpataru". While their monthlies afford a placid reading in a troubled world, the special numbers which they bring forth from time to time may be described as a generous gift to the nation. In a world which has become a mad-house of deafening materialistic clamour, their periodical emanations are like pouring oil on a troubled sea

We have before us their current annual, "Srimad Bhagavata, Number II", giving the 4th, 5th, and 6th books of the great devotional masterpiece. While the Mahabharata is a veritable Andes among mankind's literary productions, the Bhagavata is a Himalaya of heaven-touching grandeur.

It is said that after composing the Mahabharata sage Vyasa was left with a sense of frustration, and then God lifted his mind to the etherial regions, and he composed the divine "Bhagavata". Sanskritists for ages have considered it the greatest of compositions. And if the rest of the world knew Sanskrit, it would consider it the greatest of world compositions for all time.

It is a work which men like Churchill and Nehru, Chou en Lai and Kruschenev might read and become better men, while at the other end of the scales, the victims of modern democracies might read and find solace amidst their sorrows.

'यन्नेहास्ति न कुत्रचित्'. 'स्वादु स्वादु पदे पदे'. विद्या भागवतावधिः'.

"What is not found in Bhagavata is not found in any other work"; "Sweet and sweet from word to word"; "Knowledge reaches its highest pitch in Bhaagavata"; are some of the tributes paid to this glorious work in the past. It is called "Paaramahamsya Samhita", or "The Scripture of the loftiest asceticism."

As a literary composition it is sublime. Compared with it Milton is a pale star compared with the noon-day sun. English compared with Sanskrit is like red-brick compared with marble. Its stanzas are like limpid streams and great rivers, like the Cauvery, the Yamuna and the Ganges, like the Yangtse, Volga and Mississipi, like the Nile, Niagara, and the Amazon. They are laden with nectar, and comfort the heart, exalt the mind, and purify the soul.

In the 4th book we have the stories of Sati, demigod Daksha's daughter, God Shiva's wife. Daksha was blessed with 16 daughters. The last one, and most high-spirited, was Sati, who married Shiva. Once on entering an assemblage where all rise to receive him except Shiva, Daksha feels insulted and hates Him thenceforward. Later hearing that her father is performing a great sacrifice Sati wants to go to it. Shiva seeks to dissuade her, saying that she would not be welcome, and that she better not go. She bursts into tears, and heedless of Him goes away. At the sacrifice, while her mother and sisters welcome her, Daksha ignores her, and reviles Shiva. Hurt to the quick she denounces him, and vows to destroy the body which she begot from him. By concentrating the fire and air in her body by yoga she bursts into flame and the body perishes!

Annual for 1954, of 'Kalyana-Kalpataru', Gita Press, Gorakhpur.

Hearing of her immolation Shiva bursts into a rage, and plucking one of his matted locks strikes it on the ground. Thus was born the terrible Veerabbadra, who with the Pramathas lets Hell loose on Daksha's sacrifice and beheads him. Then Brahma and the Devas go to Shiva on beautiful Kylasa, beyond Alaka, the famed capital of Kubera, and propitiate Him with prayer and praise, and He seeks to undo the harm done to Daksha.

Sati's soul later takes birth as Himavan's daughter, and as Parvathi marries Shiva again.

An entrancing story, beautifully told.

(To be continued). *Editor.*

FACTS ABOUT VEDAS

Dr. C. P. Ramaswamy Ayyar speaking at the Egmore Veda Sabha recently said the emphasis laid by our ancestors on the recital of Vedas was not without purpose, and it had a tremendous significance in that "Nada or Sabdam or sound" was one of the primordial forces of Nature, and certain sounds uttered in the proper manner and with appropriate intonation produced specific metaphysical, psychological and physical effects.

Our education in this country, added Dr. Ramaswami Ayyar, was not merely an education with the eye, but was more an education with the ear, just as music, first of the arts, aspired to itself the ultimate embodiment of the final sublimation of all arts.

Considered in this light the movement for the recital of the Vedas as in this Sabha was an ennobling movement based upon certain fundamental ideas regarding the place of sound.

He, therefore, congratulated those who were responsible in the Sabha for keeping alive not merely the verbal felicity but also perpetuating the melody and resonant charms of our ancient hymns with their infinite capacity in improving us in the evolution of our character, and said any attempt to keep up that element of our bodily, spiritual and mental make-up was a worthy venture.

Dr. Ayyar, who was inaugurating the anniversary celebrations of the Sabha, said that he regarded an intelligent study and proper recitation of the Vedas, with which the proceedings commenced, as of deep significance and designed really to effect the mental and spiritual re-generation of the country. Dealing with what he termed certain "unintelligent ways in which the Vedas have been approached" both in India and in the West, he quoted a few passages from the Upanishads and said even in the "dry and unconvincing translation" they meant: "Let our learning be illustrious; the person who is imbued with the spirit of the scriptures gets the inner light or illumination which is almost transparent, and makes him transparent and full of life; let us not antagonize each other."

Vedas were scriptures of such deep thought and significance. And yet there was a tendency in the world to deal with the Vedas in one of two ways. One group took the Vedas as a document dealing with personalities. Others took to the Vedas as having a meaning not apparent on the face of it but conveying something scientific, literary, artistic, material, astronomical and so forth. Recently another school of ingenious writers had come into being and they had published a book called "Vedic India." The idea underlying that book was that Rig Veda was practically a concoction of the Brahmins, the Sama Veda was a musical hymn and the Yajur Veda was a sacrificial manual. What mattered to them was the Atharvana Veda as representing the gradual conquest of the last Aryan group by the lesser races which had evolved better. In other words this theory made up "a perverted ethnological interpretation of pre-conceived notions!"

"It seems to me that if you are not obsessed by any of these pre-conceived notions and approached the Vedas as humble students," deciared Dr. Ramaswami Ayyar, "you will see that there are interpretations available which make out the Vedas to be not merely the infant lispings of an evolving civilization, not merely the juvenile pranks of a group of men who were emerging from barbarism to comparative civilization, modified as that civilization was by Mohenjodaro and Harappa, but as the wonderful imagery and tremendously operative imagination dealing with the cosmological phenomena which are regarded as simple interpretations of fundamental truth." From time to time certain aspects of life and energy were put forward as superior things in creation for being concentrated upon. His own view was that that intrepretation alone was valid which dealt with the Vedas as a manual not only of worship but of the immanent conception of the Universe. Anyone who had made a study of the Vedas would realize that the Vedas had already got a fairly evolved set of ideas of the oneness of the ultimate energy, and of its immanence throughout the world in the various manifestations of that energy, according to the way, outlook and aspiration of the worshipper, thinker or contemplator. So in the Vedas they found a fairly systematized thought or view of the cosmos.

In this connection he pointed out that the meaning of the word "anna" as it appeared in the various parts of the Vedas should not be interpreted as rice, wheat or some other food material, but as the primal, creative energy immanent and working through the processes of evolution in the Universe. One scientist at least had said that it was possible to conceive of "anna" or "food" as not being dependent upon agriculture or hydroponics, and it was possible to get the necessary nutriment from sunlight and the fundamental elements which were existent in the atmosphere. Dr. Ayyar did not claim that this particular doctrine was enunciated in that specific form or detail in the Vedas, but the idea was there that "anna" meant this creative energy.

As inheritors of this wonderful thought they could take pride on the fact that if they concentrated their minds on certain things as laid down by these scriptures they could find solution for some of their problems. It was in this context that the element of "nada" or "sound" assumed importance. Recently there was a demonstration in America whereby some glasses placed at a distance were broken through the playing ot certain musical instruments. There were series of experiments now being conducted in the Annamalai University on the influence music had on the growth of plants. The theory was that certain "ragas" stimulated the growth of plants while others stunted them or increased their fruitage. In one way the ear was the more superior and triumphantal improvement of the organs of the body, and it was through the ear that all the education was taking part in India. In modern times people talked of appalling illiteracy and eradicating it. Whatever the truth was the critics did not realize that our education started with learning by heart of the dictionary and then certain scriptural elements, classics and so forth. It was all carried in the mind after learning by the ear. For at least four or five thousand years our sacred lore, the background of our education, was transmitted through the ear. So, the movement for the recitation of the Vedas was an ennobling movement based upon these fundamental ideas relating to the place of sound. He wished the Sabha in that noble endeavour all success.

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TINY DESTROYERS

An old farmer in Kenya left his wooden cart out of doors one evening because he was tired and wanted to get home to bed. When he returned to look for it the following morning, all he could find was the iron parts and the metal wheels! Another farmer in the same area came home after a few weeks' absence to find only the glass coverings of the pictures on the walls of one room left! They were cemented to the wall—the frames and cords having completely vanished!

In another part of that country a farmer's wife had carefully packed a trunk of winter clothing into a large wooden trunk and had placed it under a bed. Some months later she had occasion to look for a woollen pullover. She bent down and pulled out the trunk. It immediately crumbled into dust on the floor.

These were not the strange manifestations of ghosts, nor the results of a witchdoctor's curse. The answer was, termites. They had worked fantastically quickly on the cart, eating wood in the course of one night: they had eaten the picture frames and cords, cementing the glass to the walls; and they had devoured the contents of the woman's trunk as well as the trunk itself with the exception of a thin outer covering. They had not consumed the whole trunk because they dislike light.

Some time ago, billions of termites destroyed a complete crop of maize in Kenya, working under the ground and silently. The amazing perseverance of these pests was shown a year or two ago in Darwin, Australia. A termite nest was built on an important road. Orders were given to destroy it. It was knocked down and the workers went away satisfied with their job. That night the termites rebuilt their large nest. The next day the workers knocked it down again. And this went on for nearly a week until the termites finally gave up the battle and moved elsewhere.

And, talking of roads, termites seem to enjoy eating tar surfaces. Outside the same town of Darwin, these pests devoured strips of road, replacing the tar with sand. The damage was discovered when a car became bogged down on the "tar" surface.

They can, and often do, literally bring a house down. They eat almost anything—furniture, clothing, shoes, human food and grass. In buildings that are made of plastered mud bricks, they make their way up through the middle of the walls—silent and unseen from either outside or inside. Then, slowly and inexorably they eat through the wooden rafters and the floors, and whatever wooden supports there may be. Before long, the house is just a framework and can be knocked over with one hand.

Termites have greatly hardened and strong mandible jaws, and secrete an acrid liquid through their snouts. This secretion is used as an offensive and defensive weapon by the soldier termites in battle. But it is the worker termites that do the damage to buildings in warm countries. They are able to digest wood because of certain enzymes in their stomachs, which enable them to split the cellulose of wood into assimilable products that they can use as food. The main structural damage is caused by the more primitive types of termite which do not build proper nests. In all, there are some 2,600 species. Although they are called "white ants," they are only distantly related to ants, to which they differ fundamentally in structure.

In New Guinea, the wife of an Australian planter set up a dinner table on the varandah outside her house and then went in to have a few drinks with her guests. When she returned a little later, she was distressed to find that all the fruit, bread, and even the

flowers, had vanished! It was the work of giant snails, which are also silent destroyers.

These large molluses are far more formidable than termites and are an ever-present threat to mankind. They range in size from six to nine inches, have a tough, multi-coloured shell and will devour almost anything. These giant snails originated in Central Africa from where they migrate to Asia.

They were released in the Pacific area by the Japanese as a source of emergency food during the last war. To-day, they are an enormous threat to the plantations of New Guinea, New Britain, New Ireland and the East Indies. However, many former soldiers owe their lives to these snails. When they were fighting in the jungles of Burma and Malaya, and when they were prisoners in Japanese hands, many of these men lived on giant snails. When boiled or grilled, or even fried, they are said to taste rather like chicken. Doubtless an acquired taste!

Snails are very prolific. They bring both male and female at the same time—and lay up to 300 eggs at a time. At this rate one solitary snail could produce more than 2,000,000 offspring in one year! They can destroy complete crops, as they often have done in the Pacific islands, for they are not only large in size but are extremely voracious. It is a constant fear that they may transfer their activities to other countries. In this they are helped by Nature because they have the ability to live for long periods—up to six months—without taking any nourishment. They could, therefore, easily transfer themselves to other countries on ships. In the past they succeeded in getting over from Africa to South-east Asia. It's only 100 miles from New Guinea to Australia.

Authorities in that country, as well as the United States, are on constant guard against snails. Sometimes one is found on a ship. The whole ship has then to be fumigated!

ISRAEL'S EXAMPLE

Frequent grumbles are heard in Britain about the two years' National Service all males have to do, but in Israel all unmarried girls have to do two years' army service, in the same way as our National Service.

Israel is the only country in the world to-day where women are compelled to do peacetime army service, but Israel authorities report that their women soldiers "love it."

Such training of women is considered a vital element in fighting any future war, according to Israeli militarists. The women are being trained for frontline duty and not merely along the lines of a kind of Home Guard defence measure.

Enlistment age for Israeli's "National Service" women is eighteen years and their training includes the use of firearms. The girls are also taught to nurse, be clerks, electricians, technicians, radio and telephone engineers, and the care of parachutes.

Upon completion of their two years' training, the girls are on reserve up to the age of twenty-nine, and during the intervening years have to undergo two weeks' duty each year.

Conscientious objectors on religious grounds are exempt, if they can prove their beliefs and convictions.

The commander-in-chief of the women's "National Service" in Israel was trained by Britain. She is Brigadier Shoshana Gershonowtz, who formerly commanded the Palestine Women's Corps, which was formed by Britain in the late war. A.B.

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The Rationalist

A NOVEL VENTURE

Mrs. Nelly Hartmann, a silver-haired, 46-year-old mother of three children, has become Switzerland's most successful career woman, earning Rs. 65,000 a year by telling people how she runs her home and looks after her family.

She has turned her rose-coloured hillside villa, overlooking Lake Zurich, into a "laboratory," and her husband and children into human guinea-pigs.

Here she works a regular 15 hours a day, starting at 5 a.m. putting six full-time jobs into one.

With her husband as business manager, Mrs. Hartmann publishes and is chief contributor to "Nelly's Calendar," a pocket-size monthly magazine for women, which describes what her family does and eats.

Nelly, as she is known to its 50,000 subscribers, does not call herself a publisher or journalist.

"My career is based on being a mother, housewife, cook, gardener and dietician, she says. "Once a month I publish all the useful experiences which I collect in my daily routine."

The emphasis is on healthy eating: each issue of her magazine contains a full menu for each day of the month.

And her "painless diet" is becoming increasingly popular."

The Swiss army feeds its troops on it. And many leading hotels offer a Nelly menu.

Mrs. Hartmann estimates that 500,000 people closely follow her advice on eating. Every recipe and menu she publishes is first tried out in her home.

"I do not attempt to take away from the good things in life," she says. "An effective diet should combine the strict basic principles of dieting with a strong flavouring and attractive presentation."

She says that people should be able to eat anything they want provided that the harmful effects of certain foods are eliminated or counter-balanced. Thus:

"Most people eat perfectly healthy food, but the important nutritious qualities are often destroyed in preparation. Even more often the beneficial qualities of food, healthy food, are eliminated because a meal is eaten in the worst order."

Number one rule is that all fresh food, such as salad or fresh fruit, must be eaten before cooked dishes.

"All nutricious values of fresh food are killed if eaten in any other order." Mrs. Hartmann believes.

A thousand letters a month arrive at Mrs. Hartmann's house from mothers who seek advice on diet or children. She answers them all!

HIS PREFERENCE

"Isn't your husband doing anything to cure his deafness?"

"No—he's decided to wait until the children have finished their music lessons!"

FLYING SAUCERS

People all over the world, except some countries like India, have seen the flying saucers. Some scientists have explained the phenomena as mere atmospheric tricks. That that explanation cannot be accepted as proving anything definite is made out in the following report of Capt. James Howard, a B. O. A. C. pilot:

May be it wasn't exactly a flying saucer. What I saw, on a recent New York to London flight, was more of a flying-arrow, I guess you'd have called it at one stage. It seemed to keep changing its shape as it flew beside me, very much like a jelly-fish assumes varying patterns as it swims through the water. Or may be the apparent changes in shape were due to the different angles we viewed it from as it banked and turned about five miles off.

Whatever it was—a giant flying, jellyfish or saucer—of these things I'm quite certain: It wasn't a trick of light or a figment of the imagination. It wasn't any sort of electrical, magnetic, or natural phenomenon. And it certainly wasn't a mirage.

No, it was something real and substantial; something that kept station with me for eighty miles, and only sheered off when I got a radio call from the Sabre-jet fighter which had been sent up from Goose Bay to intercept the thing. It was something—the idea gives me slight goose-pimples when I think of it—which was keeping my Boeing Stratocruiser Centaurus, under observation.

Just before sunset. Over Labrador. The sky was crystal-clear.

It was 9-05 p.m. Labrador time and we were at ,ut twenty minutes' flying time north-east of Seven Islands when I first sighted the thing.

At first it looked like no more than an indeterminate dark blob in the distance, with several smaller blobs dancing attendance on it. The whole set-up looked, at first glance, like a cluster of flak-bursts such as I had encountered several times over Europe during World War II while bombing invasion barges lined up along the Dutch and Belgian coasts.

But the biggest blob was much bigger than any flak burst I had ever encountered, and in some strange way it seemed to have definite shape. It didn't look, somehow, as though it was going to disintegrate into thin air, the way flak-burst does. As near as I can describe it, it was something like an inverted pear suspended in the sky.

I was on the port side of the control cockpit, looking out of the window nearest the thing. Beside me was my co-pilot, First Officer Lee Boyd, a 33-years-old Canadian from Saskatchewan who flew with the famous Pathfinder Force during World War II. I gave Lee a nudge.

"What do you make of that?" I asked.

"I just noticed," he said. "What in tarnation is it?"

As near as I could judge, the group of things was about five miles off, stretched out in a line parallel with our own line of flight. The big one was roughly centre of the group, with the smaller ones extended fore and aft like a destroyer screen convoying a battleship.

Watching, puzzled ... the Stratocruiser was flying by auto-pilot at the time ... I realised something else, too.

"The damn things are moving," I said.

Even as we watched, the big central thing began to change shape...or may be it altered its angle of flight giving the appearance of changing shape. I would not know. What I do know is that during the entire eighteen minutes it flew along with us it changed shape continually while the smaller attendant things switched position around it.

This is something lots of people are going to want to know a deal about later I told my-

self. There's going to be a lot of questions fired at me once I make my report. I'd better know some of the answers. How many small ones, for instance.

I counted, re-counted, counted again. Six. Alwas six, sometimes there were three stretched out in front of the main thing and three behind. Sometimes five stretched out in line ahead and only one behind. I had the impression that just before I got round to counting them there were more than six, which ties in with Lee Boyd's idea that they were flying in and out of the large central object like aircraft entering and leaving a flight hangar.

Lee said, as though he didn't believe it himself: "There's a lot of Air Force traffic in and out of Goose Bay some days. Maybe it's a formation of fighter way out in the distance. Want me to call up Goose and check?"

It didn't look like any formation of fighters I'd ever seen, but I told him to go ahead.

He called up Approach Control at Goose Bay....told them what was going on.

"Hold it a moment and we'll check," they said. A minute later they reported back. "No other traffic in your area."

"Well, there are a number of very strange objects flying parallel with us some distance off." Lee said. "There's one large one and about six smaller ones."

"Can you identify them?"

"No."

"Okay. We'll send a fighter up to take a look-see."

Now, from the inverted pear-shape the big thing had looked when I first saw it, it turned into what looked like a flying arrow—an enormous deltawing plane turning in to close with us.

There was a nasty moment as we watched a thing seeming to grow larger as though drawing closer.

"It's coming towards us," I said.

But it wasn't. We watched, tense, expectant, but it didn't come any closer. Suddenly the deltawing appearance started to flatten down stretching out, until it was now like a giant telephone receiver lying on its back in the sky, still with the smaller objects changing formation around it. Stretched out like that, assuming it was about five miles off, it looked about the size of an ocean liner.

I grabbed paper and began to sketch. My memory might play tricks with me later about this.

The four other members of the crew in the cockpit with us had got the gist of what was going on, had caught something of our own expectancy and tenseness. They crowded forward now to look out of the windows with us: George Allen navigating officer; Doug Cox, radio officer; Dan Godfrey, engineering officer and a grizzled old veteran flyer; and Bill Stewart, the other engineering officer.

They all saw it. So did the steward and Daphne Webster, the stewardess, a twenty-seven-years-old Londoner, They both popped their heads inside the cockpit to tell us that some of the passengers had seen it too and wanted to know what it was.

Their guess was as good as mine.

The objects were still parallel with us, still keeping station with us at the same altitude. George Allen, angling himself so that he could line them up with the window-frame, said that at one time they went a little ahead of us and then dropped back exactly parallel again.

I was tempted the change course and take a closer look at the things, but I didn't. After all, I didn't know what the blazes they were and I had fifty-one passengers to consider. I also had a hunch that the things might shee off if we showed too much interest, and with a fighter coming up to intercept them, I wanted to be in the audience to see what happened.

(To be continued.)

भा र ती य क न्या म हा वि द्या ल य

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INSTITUT HISTORIQUE ET HERALDIQUE DE FRANCE. FELLOW, MYSORE UNIVERSITY 1929-33.
EDITOR "RATIONALIST".

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Proprietor & Editor : G. R. JOSYER, M.A., F.R.E.S.

Vol XV No. 24] Monday 7—3—1955 [Price 0—1—6.

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DICTATORS

"It is a paradox that every dictator has climbed to power on the ladder of free speech. Immediately on attaining power each dictator has suppressed all free speech except his own!"

MENTAL PEAK

Recent studies of human mind have revealed that today man reaches a mental peak at the age of sixty, says Professor N. J. Berrill of McGill University.

"Mental potency rises sharply until the age of 40 and continues to rise, thereafter, although at a decreasing rate until a climax is reached at 60.

Then there is a slow decline for the next 20 years, although even at 80 the mental standard is still as good as it was at 35.

"It is a different mind from that of a 35 year-old, but no less valuable. While the young mind tends to create new conceptions and ideas, the older mind, though suffering from impaired memory and decline in sensual qualities possesses greater steadiness, thoroughness and wealth of experience."

A FRIEND

"Oh, the comfort, the inexpressible comfort of feeling safe with a person; having neither to weigh thoughts nor measure words, but to pour them all out, just as they are, chaff and grain together, knowing that a faithful hand will take and sift them, keep what is worth keeping, and then, with the breath of kindness, blow the rest away!"

CHANGELESS EARTH

"Some things will never change. The voice of forest water in the night, a woman's laughter in the dark, the clean, hard rattle of raked gravel, the delicate web of children's voices in brighter air—these things will never change. The glitter of sunlight on roughened water, the glory of the stars, the innocence of morning, the smell of the sea in harbours, the feathery blur and smoky buddings of young boughs—these things will always be the same.

All things belonging to the earth will never change—the leaf, the blade, the flower, the wind that cries and sleeps and wakes again, the trees whose stiff arms clash and tremble in the dark, these things will always be the same, for they come up from the earth that never changes."

SMALL ACTS COUNT

Charles Dawes, who later became U.S. Vice-President and Ambassador in London, was an intimate friend of President McKinly's. He tells in his journal about one evening when the President was having a hard time deciding which of two equally competent men to appoint to an important ministerial post. But then he recalled an incident that had occurred one stormy night many years before.

McKinly had boarded a streetcar that night and taken the last available seat at the rear of the car when an old washerwoman carrying a heavy basket entered. She stood in the aisle at the front of the car, and, despite her forlorn appearance, no one offered her a seat. One of the candidates whom the President was now considering was sitting in a nearby seat reading a newspaper, which he shifted so as not to seem to see the old woman. McKinley went down the aisle, picked up the basket of washing and led the old lady back to his seat! The man did not look up from his newspaper, so did not see McKinley or what he had done.

"The candidate never knew," Dawes concluded, "that this little act of selfishness, or rather this little omission of kindness, had deprived him of that which would have crowned his ambition of a lifetime."

The Mandayam Banking Company. Ltd.. MYSORE.

Report and Balance Sheet for presentation to the 17th Annual General Meeting of Shareholders on Wednesday the 30th March, 1955.

Notice is hereby given that the 17th Annual General Meeting of the Shareholders of the Company will be held on Wednesdsy the 30th March 1955 at 9-30 a.m. at the Registered Office of the Company for transacting the following business :—

(i) To receive the Report of Directors and Statement of Accounts as on 31st December 1954.

(ii) To elect Directors and Auditor in place of those retiring.

By order of the Board,

G. SRINIVASA JOSYER, M.A.
Manager.

3—3—1955
K I/1087. 100 Feet Road,
Krishnaraja Mohalla,
Mysore.

REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS

The Directors herewith submit to the Shareholders the Balance Sheet and Profit and Loss Statement as on 31st December 1954.

The net profit for the year amounted to	385	12	6		
Carried forward from previous Balance Sheet	50	10	0		
				436	6 6
Out of this the Directors recommend					
To provide for Income and Corporation taxes				150	0 0
To add 20% to Reserve Fund				110	0 0
To carry forward				176	6 6
				436	6 6

By order of the Board,

G. SRINIVASA JOSYER, M.A.
Manager.

THE MANDAYAM BANKING

BALANCE SHEET AS

CAPITAL AND LIABILITIES	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
1. Capital—		
Authorised Capital 5000 shares of Rs. 20 each	1,00,000 0 0	
Issued & Subscribed Capital for payment in Cash : 2503 shares at Rs. 20 each.	50060 0 0	
Calls paid up 2503 shares of Rs. 10 each.	25030 0 0	25030 0 0
2. Reserve fund and other Reserves		3543 14 6
3. Deposits and other Accounts—		
Fixed Deposits	49696 13 4	
Thrift Deposits	3323 12 9	
Current Deposits ...	2601 11 9	55622 5 10
4. Borrowings from other Banking Companies. Agents etc.—		
(i) In India	Nil	
(ii) Outside India	Nil	
Particulars—		
(i) Secured	Nil	
(ii) Unsecured		Nil
5. Bills Payable.		Nil
6. Bills for collection.		
7. Other Liabilities.		
(i) Dividends not drawn.	361 2 10	
(ii) Sundries.	60 0 0	
(iii) Branch adjustments.	Nil	
(iv) Balance of Provision for Income Tax.	22 0 0	443 2 10
8. Acceptances, endorsements and other obligations as per contra.		Nil
9. Profit and loss Account.		
Profit as per B/Sheet of 31-12-1953.	427 8 6	
Less ;-Dividends or other adjustments.	376 14 6	
	50 10 0	
Add :-Profit for the year 1954.	385 12 6	436 6 6
10. Contingent Liability—		Nil
Total Rs.		85075 13 8

COMPANY, LIMITED.

ON 31 December 1954.

PROPERTY AND ASSETS	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
1. **Cash**—		
In hand and with Reserve Bank and Imperial Bank (including foreign currency notes.)		15161 0 7
2 **Balances with other Banks (in Current and Thrift Accounts.)**		
(i) In India.		Nil
(ii) Outside India.		Nil
(iii) Staff security Deposit with Scheduled Bank in India.		Nil
3. **Money at Call and Short Notice**		
4. **Investments at or below Market Value**		
(i) Securities of the Central and State Governments and other Trustee Securities (Treasury Bills of the Central and State Governments Nil)	3000 0 0	
(ii) Shares	Nil	
(iii) Debentures or Bonds	Nil	
(iv) Other Investments	Nil	
(v) Gold	Nil	3000 0 0
5. **Advances (other than Bad and Doubtful Debts for which provision has been made to the satisfaction of the Auditors.)**		
I. Loans, Cash Credits, Overdrafts, etc:		
(i) Payable In India	64737 13 9	
(ii) Payable Outside India.	Nil	64737 13 9
II. Bills Discounted and Purchased: (Including Treasury Bills of the Central & State Governments.)		
(i) In India	Nil	
(ii) Outside India	Nil	
Particulars of Advances: bills Discounted and Purchased	Nil	
(i) Debts considered good in respect of which the Banking Company is fully secured	54900 1 1	
(ii) Debts considered good for which the Banking Company holds no other security than the Debtors' personal security.	9837 12 8	
(iii) Debts considered good secured by the personal liabilities of one or more parties in addition to the personal security of the Debtors.	Nil	
(iv) Debts considered doubtful or bad, not provided for	Nil	
(v) Debts due by Directors or Officers of the Banking Company or any of them either severally or jointly with any other persons.	Nil	
(vi) Debts due by companies or firms in which the Directors of the Banking Company are interested as directors, partners or managing agents or, in the case of private companies, as members.	Nil	
(vii) Maximum total amount of advances, including temporary advances made at any time during the year to Directors or Managers or Officers of the Banking Company or any of them either severally or jointly with any other persons.	Nil	
Carried over Rs.		82898 14 4

(viii) Maximum total amount of advances, including temporary advances, granted during the year to the companies or firms in which the Directors of the Banking Company are interested as directors, partners or managing agents or, in the case of private companies, as members.	Bf.		82898 14 4
	Nil		
(ix) Due from Banking Companies (fully secured)	Nil		
6. **Bills receivable being Bills for collection as** per contra—			Nil
(i) Payable in India			Nil
(ii) Payable outside India.			Nil
7. **Constituents' Liabilities for Acceptances. Endorsements and** other **obligations** as per contra			Nil
8. **Land and Buildings** (at cost)	520 5 0		
9. **Safe, furnitures & fixtures** (at cost)	125 5 0		395 0 0
Less Depreciation written off up to 31.12.54.			25 0 0
10. **Other Assets** (including Silver) Books, forms and stationery in stock at cost.			1756 15 4
11. **Non-Banking Assets**— Acquired in satisfaction of claims.			
Total Rs.			85075 13 8

Profit and Loss Account for the year ended 31st December 1954.

Expenditure	Rs.	A.	P.	Income	Rs.	A.	P.
1 Interest paid on deposits, borrowings, etc.	2372	8	0	1 Interest and Discount	4003	5	0
2 Salaries Allowances Prov. Fund (allowances to Manager 600-0-0).	900	0	0	2 Commission, Exchange, and Brokerage	Nil		
3 Directors' fees & allowances	18	0	0	3 Rents	,,		
4 Rent, Taxes, Insurance, Lighting	189	0	0	4 Net profit on sale of investments, gold and silver, land, premises & other assets (not credited A/c.)	,,		
5 Law Charges	32	0	0	5 Net profit on re-valuation of investments, gold & silver, land, premises and other assets (not credited to Reserves or any particular Fund or Account.)	,,		
6 Postage, Telegraphs, Stamps	16	10	0	6 Income from non-banking assets, and profit from sale of or dealing with such assets	,,		
7 Auditor's Fees	30	0	0	7 Other profits	,,		
8 Depreciation on and repairs to the Banking Company's property	Nil			8 Loss (if any)	,,		
9 Stationery, Printing, Advt. etc.	59	6	6				
10 Loss from sale of or dealing with non-banking assets	Nil						
11 Other Expenditure	Nil						
12 Balance of Profit	385	12	6				
	4003	5	0	Total Rs.	4003	5	0

N. Krishnaiengar, B.A, B.C.E., Rtd. Suptdg. Engineer. *(Chairman).*
M. J. Sampathkumarachar, B.A., C.E. Rtd. Engineer, Mysore.
G. R. Josyer, M.A, F.R.E.S.,
N. Venkatachar, Rtd. Asst. Auditor, Rys.
R. A. Sampathkumaracharya, B.A., Rtd. Inspector of Schools.
(Directors).

G. Srinivasa Josyer, M.A.
Manager.

Auditor's Report to Share-holders:—I have audited the above Balance Sheet of the Mandayam Banking Company, Ltd as on 31st December 1953, and also the Profit and Loss Account of the Bank for the year on that date with the books of the Bank and I beg to report that.—(i) I have obtained all the information and explanations I have required, and in my opinion (a) Such information and explanations have been found to be satisfactory; (b) The transactions of the company which have come to my notice have been within the powers of the company; (2) The Profit and Loss account shows a true balance of profit for the year ended 31.12.54; (3) The Balnce Sheet and Profit and Loss account are drawn up in conformity with the law; (4) The Balance Sheet exhibits a true and correct view of the state of the Bank affairs as on that date according to the best of my information and the explanations given to me and as shown by the books of the Bank; (6) and that in my opinion the books of account have been kept by the Bank as required by section 130 of the Indian Companies Act.

Mysore.
27—2—1955.

H. N. Ananthapadmanabha Rao, A.C.A.
Chartered Accountant.

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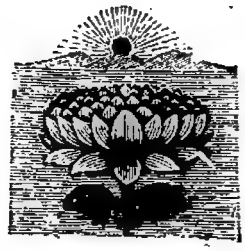

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SELF-SERVICE SHOPS

At Olympia, London, a Packaging Exhibition, was recently held. Many stands showed new packs designed with an eye to the self-service shops.

With the growth of these shops in the West in recent years a revolution in shopping habits has taken place. The self-service shops may well be a fore-runner to similar ventures in this country.

There are now well over 2000 of them now in Britain with anything up to 50 opening each month. Most are in industrial areas, especially around Birmingham, while big council estates often have their own self-service shops in the form of mobile vans.

Their biggest trade is in groceries, but some sell anything, from gramophone records to underwear.

To the busy house wife, and especially the one who runs a job as well as a home, the speed-up in shopping which they bring is a welcome innovation.

To the shop-keeper they may represent an increase in turnover that averages about 30 per cent, and has in some cases reached 300 per cent! One big chain of shops saw an opportunity in these added profits to pass on some of the benefit to the customer by reducing prices. But so far this has not happened.

The express Dairy tried to reduce toothpaste by three annas a tube last summer, but the trade associations threatened to withhold supplies of all toilet goods if they did so.

Manufacturers who depend mainly on the custom of shops which do not operate self-service want to keep prices up for the sake of such shops.

"But as soon as self-service shops outnumber the others, prices are bound to fall," says Patrick Galvani, a director of the Express Dairy. "It has happened in other countries."

Another advantage from the intelligent shopper's point of view is the freedom of choice which self-service brings. Whenever two or three house-wives gather together to talk shop, the conversation turns inevitably to the half-hearted way many shop assistants serve the customer.

They rarely trouble to use any salesmanship, or give advice on the bewildering choice of goods now available.

At least the self-service shopper can compare the whole range of goods herself and study them unhurriedly. If she does want advice, the well-run self-service shop has what the Americans call a "store hostess" to help her.

She and the checkers at the cash desks may be the only staff in sight, but this does not mean that shop assistants are losing their jobs as self-service takes over.

Many are now employed behind the scenes —weighing and packing goods to go on the shelves, replenishing stores, and doing other routine work.

Alfred Robens, M.P., speaking on behalf of the union of shop distributive and allied workers, says that in no case has the introduction of self-service created staff redundancy.

Always there has been an immediate increase in trade, and the problem is usually a shortage of shop assistants, for staff turnover in the food trade is rapid.

Self-service has brought many headaches to manufacturers who must now package their goods in such a way that they sell themselves.

Biscuits which used to be sold by the pound now have to be packed so that they can go straight from shelf to shopping basket, and the label must explain the contents clearly.

Many manufacturers are using transparent plastic wrappings. Meat and vegetables are sold cut, trimmed and marked with weight and price in transparent waterproof wraps.

Vegetables, packed near the place they are grown, are also fresher and cleaner than usual, thus justifying the small extra cost of this packaging.

Refrigerated cabinets keep all perishable food fresh until the customer takes it out of the shop. On the whole self-service means less handling of food, and less exposure to dust and flies.

Often the sight of an almost empty self-service shop gives the impression it is not doing much trade. In fact this merely indicates the speed with which customers pass through.

Some shop-keepers at first feared that the accessible shelves would encourage pilfering. But the checking of goods at the cash desk makes this difficult, and the bigger shops have, as an additional precaution, put in peep-holes between the manager's office and the body of the shop.

What looks like a mirror may be a window which can be seen through from the office side, but not from the shop side.

The small manufacturer is at a disadvantage in the self-service shop. Once the customer, if advised by the shop-keeper, might have bought his product in preference to that of a much advertised firm. Now she is more likely to take the packet with the famous name when she sees it within arm's reach.

If his product is good, the small man's only hope for the future lies in the better education of the consumer, for neither men or women shoppers are as critical or as well-informed as they need to be.

The new technique involves a completely different psychology of selling. Some critics feel that its popularity lies largely in its novelty, and that people shall come to hate the monotony of the monstrous regiment of packages that line the precisely parallel shelves. But more and more housewives in the West are acquiring the self-service habit. It will be a universal habit when such shops are opened in all parts of the world.

CANING

Young John put down the book he had been reading, and stared at the man in the chair opposite.

"Pop, did you get your share of stick when boy?"

His father let his newspaper sag in front of him, and he looked for a moment or two over the top of his glasses before he replied. "Yes, I suppose I did," he said slowly. "Why? Did you get stick to-day, John?"

"Yes, not half! But this afternoon I worked off at rugger—and I'm all right now. Fact is it seemed to make me play a better game than ever! You know, Pop, I felt as if I wanted to push harder than ever in the scrum."

John's father smiled as he raised his newspaper. How strange, he thought, that he, as a boy, should have got the stick years ago before an important rugger match, and here was his young son doing the same thing!

Caning to-day again seems time and time to cause unrest in our schools, yet so many fathers say they became better men for the way they were brought up in school.

Let us look for a moment to those mediæval schools where severity and frequency of punishments were calculated to cultivate fortitude in bearing pain.

This severity was a reflex of the roughness of manners generally: but it was deliberately adopted even by the most kindly teachers of children as designed to advance their moral good. "Spare the rod and spoil the child" was a universally accepted maxim;—was it not the advice of Solomon, the wisest of men?

Nor do the boys seem to have regarded these punishments as cruelties. They came to school, and Latin and Logic were the chief articles of their mental diet. In Germany the annual school festival, when lessons were excused, was called the 'Procession of the Rod.'

"Led by the teachers, and accompanied by half the town, the schoolboys went into the woods, where they themselves procured the materials for their own castigation."

The Rationalist

SRIMAD BHAGAVATA, II

II

Reviewing the annual of the "Kalyana Kalpataru" of Gorakhpur, dealing with the fourth, fifth, and sixth skandhas of Sreemad-Bhagavata, a fortnight ago, we referred to the story of the atom bomb daughter of Daksha, destroyer as Sati, and protectress as Parvati.

The fourth skandha also contains the great episode of the atom bomb boy Dhruva, who, spurned by his step-mother, goes out to the forest and performs *tapas* in order to invoke God. He thereby lets loose such a hydrogen bomb that the great Rishis,—the Rajagopalacharis of that time,—set up a frantic howl, and God could not but manifest Himself to Dhruva. The boy had no words to praise the Supreme Creator with. Then God touched his cheek with His shining white Conch, the symbol of eternal Sound, and Dhruva's tender mouth blossomed in praise of the Divine, and God granted him boons and immortality.

Dhruva and Prahlada are two great examples of boy-hood devotion which have served as inspiration to billions of human beings in this country during thousands of years.

His story, the Bhagavata says, "bestows heavenly bliss on the listener, engenders immortal devotion to God, devotion which cuts at the root of human affliction, implants saintly virtues, and imparts spiritual glow and illumination to the soul, and confers ineffable happiness on the devotee. The Gods shower their blessings on the generous benefactor who imparts to the ignorant, Dhruva's magnificent story of God realization."

Then there is the story of Vena, anointed king by the people, who became an apostate and ordered that no sacrifices, no offerings, no worship should be rendered to God, but that all that should be rendered to him. Expostulations failing, he was destroyed, and Prithu, was made king. He became a great king.

The description of his person is a sample of the fineness of portraiture in the Bhagavata. It runs;—"The king rose in their midst like the moon in the midst of stars. He was tall of stature, with brawny and long arms, and had a fair complexion, eyes ruddy as a lotus, a shapely nose, and a lovely countenance. He was gentle in appearance, had rounded shoulders, beautiful rows of teeth, and a winsome smile. Full of vigour, he had a broad chest, bulky hips, and a belly shaped like a leaf of the holy fig tree, and charming with folds. His navel was deep and circular like an eddy, his thighs resembled a pair of gold pillars, and his feet were slightly elevated in the front. The hair on his head was fine, curly, dark and sleek, and his throat was marked by three spiral lines like those of a conch-shell. He wore on his person a pair of costly and excellent pieces of linen, one wrapped from his waist down, and the other slung across his right side and left shoulder. Being under a vow of abstinence he had laid aside his jewels, so that the natural beauty of all his limbs was manifest. The king looked all round with eyes which were full of love and soothed men's minds, and thrilling the whole assembly with delight as it were, made the following speech which was charming to the ear, full of elegant expressions, bland, polished, deep in significance, and uninterrupted by emotion."

The English words can hardly bring out the fineness of portraiture or happy selection of the original Sanskrit.

The fifth skandha gives the stories of Priyavrata and Agnidhra and Rishabha, of seer

Jadabharata, a description of the terrestrial globe, of the Jamboo and other Dweepas, and the stellar sphere and planetary movements, and also the infernal regions.

In the sixth skandha, we have the story of Ajamila, the esoteric "Narayana Kavacha" mantra,—the cure for human ills, the story of tremendous Vritra, and the magnificent story of Dadheechi.

(To be continued). *Editor.*

HAPPIEST FOLKS

Practically no income tax, no conscription, no unemployment, and plenty of food!

No wonder the 14,000 inhabitants of the 62-square-mile pocket principality, Liechtenstein, on the borders of Switzerland, are among the happiest folks in the world!

Every year sees more and more tourists in Liechtenstein.

The roads were so packed with cars, coaches and walkers a year or so ago that they raised the matter of increasing the police force. But it was decided that the seven constables and one officer they had already were sufficient! The matter was dropped!

Reserving the right to issue their own stamps, the Government of Liechtenstein do so on every possible occasion. As soon as a new issue comes out, a queue forms outside the post office to send them off to dealers all over the world.

They built their gleaming white stone post office from a day's sale of a special issue!

Every house, hotel or shop I visited had a picture of their Prince Francis Joseph II and his wife Princess Georgina. They live in a castle perched on a high rock over Vadus, the capital.

The principality has 17 M.Ps. There are no railways, no national debt, and no rates!

To become a Liechtensteiner today would cost anything up to £4,000. It used to cost a modest £500. Real riches are practically unknown. One of the most opulent citizens is the Prime Minister—and he's paid only £800 a year!

Liechtenstein declared war with Germany in 1866. She mobilised her armed might—19 strong— but no one knows what happened to them. They never came back!

Although Liechtenstein never again raised an army, a state of war still existed between the two countries 73 years later.

Curious thing I noticed in the main street of Vaduz was the number of brass plates with the names of foreign businesses and companies.

They've over a thousand of them in the country now, who have taken advantage of the very low rate of income-tax, X.

FAT FEES

One of the fattest fees ever paid to a lawyer in a single case was once earned by Arthur Garfield Hayes, the American lawyer who died recently in New York. It amounted to £357,000 for his services in a complicated will case.

Another American lawyer who made millions of dollars during his career was Mr. Max Steuer, who boasted that he never lost a client to the gallows or "the chair".

A New York businessman, feeling the need for expert advice on a decision he was about to take, once called on Mr. Steuer. The problem, although complicated, only called for a simple "yes" or "no" from the lawyer. He said "Yes."

His advice was acted upon and proved to be sound. Shortly afterwards the client received a bill for £200 for the lawyer's monosyllabic advice!

In Britain Lord Truro received a fee of 4,000 guineas for arguing a case before the House of Lords in 1838, when the purchasing power of the guinea was of course very much greater than it is to-day.

FLYING SAUCERS

(Continued from previous issue.)

Soon the pilot of the intercepting fighter came through on the radio: "Those things still with you?"

I said they were.

"Okay. I'm about twenty miles off, heading towards you at a slightly higher altitude."

I looked out of the cockpit window again. The things were still there.

"How do they look now?" the fighter pilot radioed.

Even as he said it, I realised that the things were no longer there....not all of them. The half dozen attendant things had suddenly vanished.

"What happened to the smaller ones?" I asked.

George Allen, who had had his eyes on them the whole time, said: "It looked to me as though they went inside the big one."

At that moment the big one itself began to get rapidly smaller as though it was sheering away from us at terrific speed.

"They are getting smaller," I told the fighter pilot over the radio.

I looked out again. The big central thing was streaking away into the distance....getting smaller and smaller. In a matter of seconds it was no more than a pin-head. Then it was gone altogether.

And that was that!

What was it? Search me. It wasn't anything natural, I know that, And we had the whole group clearly in view for a full eighteen minutes...entered in the navigation log as appearing at 0105 Greenwich Mean Time and disappearing again at 0123, a flying distance of eighty miles...the strangest eighty-mile journey of my life.

Twenty minutes later we landed at Goose Bay where a USAF Intelligence Officer interviewed Lee Boyd, George Allen and myself. We told him, what I have told you here.

It has been suggested that what we saw was no more than a mirage caused by an inversion layer, a layer of warm air out of place. Normally, air gets colder the higher you climb. But occasionally you find a warm layer on top of a cold layer. This acts as a kind of reflecting mirror and produces the sort of mirages you get in the desert in early morning.

But at 19,000 feet a mirage of what? Our own aircraft? No, that would be a reflected shadow. A shadow must fall on something to be visible—and there was nothing. Anyway, the light from the setting sun couldn't possibly throw a shadow towards itself. No. I don't believe that one.

Plenty of pilots have been flying longer than I have, but 7500 flights and 265 Atlantic crossings chalked up, I've never seen anything like it anywhere before. Nor has any member of my crew, all veteran flyers with a good many thousand hours between them.

I know, too, that the things, whatever they were, were not picked up on the radar screen at Goose Bay. There's no reason why they should have been. My own Stratocruiser wasn't picked up on the screen when the things first caught up with us.

Yes, I've read all the theories put forward to account for what twenty-two of us....eight crew and fourteen passengers....saw that night! None of them add up!

It was a solid thing. I'm sure of that manoeuvrable and controlled intelligently...a sort of base ship linked somehow with those smaller attendant satellites.

There is no rational explanation....except on the basis of space ships and flying saucers. On that basis it must have been a weird form of space ship from another world!

If so, then another world was watching the Centaurus as it flew over Labrador that night in June....watching, waiting, may be for the race. One day we shall know, and that day I am sure, will be pretty important for the whole race. I hope I'm here to see it!

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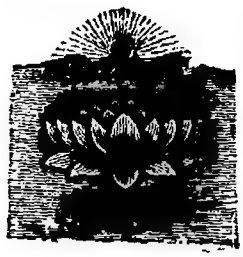

THE RATIONALIST

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for the intelligent man, devoted to a rationalistic survey of all matters of Public interest, in the economic, commercial, and literary fields.

Proprietor & Editor : G. R. JOSYER, M.A., F.R.E.S.

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FATE, PROVIDENCE, LUCK?

Recently a pilot-officer dropped four miles with a badly torn parachute. He landed in four feet water. Total damage? A sprained ankle!

Even more lucky was the war-time airman who fell three thousand feet *without* a parachute. After bouncing off some tree branches he came to rest in a snowdrift, and suffered only minor injuries!

Remarkable how fate, providence—call it what you like—sometimes extends a hand at the last moment and drags a person from apparently certain death. Even in this modern materialistic world miracles still happen, things that defy human understanding, are beyond normal reason. For these there seems no adequate explanation.

How can you reasonably account for the narrow escapes we have just mentioned and for many others of a similar nature? The case of the Melbourne priest, for instance, who was riding a motor-cycle when his brakes failed. He ran full tilt into an electric train, bounced off, fell back into the road and, although shaken, was unhurt!

Then there was the young farm worker who fell a hundred and forty feet from a cliff in Brixham, Devon, and hit the sea between two massive rocks. A foot or so either way and he would have been dashed to pieces. As it was he escaped with injuries to his ribs and leg.

Lucky? So was a lad of eighteen who was working with an older man on a platform above a disused pit-shaft in Wales. The platform collapsed, breaking the young fellow's arm, and plunging his mate to a terrible death fifteen hundred feet below. By all the laws of reason the boy should have met the same fate. Instead he managed to grasp a rope with the hand of his uninjured arm.

In fear and agony he hung on—for seventy agonizing minutes! When rescuers came they had to prise his fingers apart. They were clamped fast to the rope.

Every man who has been in any serious action can tell of narrow escapes. But one of the most remarkable happened on a mine-sweeper during the last war. The sweep was being hauled in on a particularly dark night when the first lieutenant saw that it contained what appeared to be a tangled mass of sea-weed.

He tried to remove it—and his arm was seized in a vicious grip which grew tighter and tighter. The "seaweed" was a giant octopus, and only after a fierce struggle was it dragged aboard and killed.

"My worst experience!" said the officer afterwards. "And I'm not excluding enemy action."

When a young soldier decided to take a short cut over a railway track the line was clear. But for some reason he collapsed and was unable to move. Then to his horror he heard a train approaching. Desperately he tore off battle-blouse and tried to set it alight as a warning signal. His cigarette-lighter made no impression on the heavy serge and the train was almost upon him.

Then the miracle happened. A metal bar, projecting in front of the wheels, pushed him clear. The soldier went to hospital with nothing worse than injuries to his hand and some cuts and bruises.

A five-year-old boy had a similar escape. He tried to cross a railway track, and stumbled and fell. The line was electrified, and he dropped on to the live rail. The shock from this flung him to safety.

Cycling along a busy street a woman skidded and was thrown against an overtaking bus. Somehow she managed to grasp the platform rail, was dragged along for several yards until willing hands helped her aboard. Her cycle was smashed into scrap by an oncoming lorry. Had she fallen on to the road it must have struck her too!

One of the most curious accidents occurred to a man in a Lancashire works. Calico in a massive machine wrapped itself around his ankle and whirled him on to a roller more than twenty feet in the air. He slipped down, was spun up again, and then flung heavily to the floor. After hospital treatment he confessed to being sore all over. But he wasn't complaining. "I'm satisfied to be alive!" he declared happily.

Almost as singular was the accident in which a mother and her small son were the central figures. She was carrying the child along the street when a protruding part of a lorry caught his clothing and tore him from her arms. He was carried on the lorry for about twenty yards and then fell off. To the relief of the frantic mother he was only bruised. But the accident could easily have been fatal.

Travelling along the Newmarket road with twelve tons of sugar aboard, a huge lorry toppled down a railway embankment. It was twenty feet deep, and the lorry turned a couple of somersaults. Then it landed on its wheels the right way up. The driver? Unhurt!

Not long ago the eighty-five foot high tower of a Glasgow church was being demolished. It started to fall—the wrong way. At that moment a bus was passing. "I saw the tower swaying," said the driver. He swerved desperately, and as he did so there was a terrific thump. "It's hit the bus!" he thought.

Fortunately he was only partly right. A mass of rubble had landed on the roof of his vehicle, but not the whole tower. Just as well. It weighed a hundred and fifty tons—and there were eigteen passengers and a conductor in the bus! As it was, they came to no serious harm!

An even more nerve-racking experience befell twenty-five passengers on another bus. On a level-crossing where there were no gates it was struck by an engine towing a number of petrol-tankers, dragged thirty yards along the line, and then hurled against a post.

Only three passengers were hurt and their injuries were slight. Probably the luckiest man was the conductor. Although thrown violently from his platform he landed safely on the grass verge!

This recalls another case. Travelling along a country road in the dark a short-sighted motorist saw a red light ahead. "The rear light of another car," he thought. "I'll overtake it." He put his foot down, and was soon gaining. But suddenly his passenger gave a frenzied shout.

"Stop!" he cried. "It's a railway crossing!"

The driver saw the danger at the same time and frantically slammed on the brakes. He was too late. There was a frightening crash as the car hit the gate. It splintered under the impact, but fortunately held.

The vehicle came to a shuddering stop. And at that very moment a train roared by.

Shaken, but otherwise undamaged, driver and passenger stared at each other in mutual relief. I know. I was the passenger!

Two cyclists had a remarkable escape in a Suffolk town, but in two different accidents. One collided with a car, went over the handlebars, and finished on the roof! Sprawled across, he was carried many yards. All he received were a few bruises.

The second cyclist was pedalling between two vehicles. He hadn't noticed that one was towing the other. The rope tightened suddenly and rider and mount went flying through the air. This aerial adventure could have had severe consequences. Yet the cyclist came to earth without harm!

All of which suggests that sometimes Death relents and gives a second chance! Or is it that some people are just plain lucky?

The Rationalist

A GOOD-SOUL PASSES

We regret to record the death of Sri M. G. Singriengar on the 15th instant at Mandya from a stroke. He was an Engineer of merit, one of the founders of the National Engineering Institute, Mysore, and an Ayurvedic enthusiast. He was nearly 70, and lived throughout his life, intelligently and usefully. His booklet, "Oriental Tit-bits in Engineering" was an eye-opener to modern and western Engineers. His "Easy remedies from Ayurveda" in Kannada has been a most helpful household reference book in the rural parts.

Unfortunately his latter days were not happy. He had been wrestling with death for over two years. The sudden death of his foster son, Sri M. G. Srinivasan, not long ago, was a reeling blow to him. Only a week ago he finally went to end his days in Mandya, his home-town. And all too suddenly he has ended them!

Death is a curious thing. Sometimes it plucks from behind suddenly. Sometimes it doesn't look at you however much you may covet it Sometimes it comes sure as fate in spite of all your "security measures". Security measures did not prevent King Pareekshit, son of Janamejaya, from dying. Security measures cannot prevent a man from dying of heart-failure, or an aeroplane crash. But under security measures a man who seeks to cross a blocked road, can be arrested, and if he happens to have a pocket-knife to pare his pencil, he may be dubbed a potential assassin, and taken to the cell, while his presumptive victim will be extolled as the saviour of the country! How many thousand pocket-knives could be found in a crowd! We are living in fine times if the millions who are suffering injustice and misery under a partisan administration, have not the right to approach the person who claims to have established a "Welfare State!"

We have no views on Mr. Nehru's life-span. But we think that, when out of the 35 crores of his country-men, and among all the Bharata-ratnas, Padmavibhushans, M.P's, Nobel Prize-men and Ph. D's, there is not one who can succeed him as Prime Minister, we think that no sane person will seek to curtail his life. We ourselves would want him to continue for 500 years, so that he might put through 100 Five Year Plans, and make us all multi-millionaires, and then amend the constitution to divest us of all, without compensation!

The moral that we would draw is that death is not preventible; that in a Welfare State in which 'all men are equal'—i.e., all Congress-men,—all non-Congress-men are not men——for instance, when the President and the Prime Minister went to Kumbha Mela 2 years ago, the President from pious obligation, the Prime Minister from bare curiosity,—hundreds and hundreds of innocent pilgrims were killed in the stampede, and no regret or shame was expressed, and the whole thing was hushed up in a so-called public enquiry—every one's life is equally valuable; that no one who is going into a crowd when a prominent administrator is coming or going should carry a pen-knife, even on a watch-chain, though the pen-knife has never figured as an assassin's weapon in any country or any time,—and the pen-knives of to-day cannot even slice a cucum-ber!; that the time is past when people could expect a change for the better by a change of Governments; and that Mr. Nehru may have a long span of life, and for the first time in history continue as Prime Minister longer than Walpole or Gladstone, and as long as Sagara or Dasaratha!

That is our wish, but it will depend on his family-tree, and bodily-tree.

Editor.

LIFE SPAN

Professor Bogdanov, one of ten Russian doctors who recently visited Britain, said that there are people in Russia who are more than 140 years old, who were alive when Napoleon marched on Moscow. Some of them have grandchildren of over seventy.

Is there a secret behind exceptionally long lifetimes? If so, the Russian doctors admitted they didn't know it.

American research work has been actively directed towards the medical problems of old age in recent years. Four New York doctors recently told the American Medical Association that people who get past the sixty to seventy-five period of life have a good chance of living to be a hundred. They reached this conclusion after an intensive study of 1,000 men and women between the ages of eighty and a hundred.

Between sixty and seventy-five various processes in the body undergo sharp changes. Blood pressure may start rising too speedily, and fatty substances that increasingly form in the blood may harden arteries. But usually these dangerous changes do not continue after about seventy-five—sometimes they are actually reversed.

The American doctors described the sixty to seventy-five period as a "threshold age." The secret of living to a great age is to pass through this period of life safely. "Most of us die before reaching that barrier or while going through it.

But once we get through, our chances of living to be a hundred years are good."

There seems little doubt that increased study of old age will improve man's chances of getting past seventy-five. Certain new drugs used in America are already helping to make older living more comfortable. People who are between forty and fifty to-day have lived through a period when the expectation of life has risen by about ten years; those who are under twenty may see the average age of death pushed forward into the late eighties or nineties.

It will, of course, bring many problems. It could put pension schemes very heavily in the red and create severe problems of world food supply.

Who wants to live to be a hundred anyway? Most people do—but with a reasonable retention of normal faculties, not as invalids propped up by drugs. That is the real target of modern medical research on longer living—to make old age *both older and fitter*. It is one of the certainties of the future.

THEY CAN DO BETTER

What are the ten small but important things which a woman can do better than a man?

A romantic but rather cynical Frenchman undertook to find out. He studied women for five years, reports a Paris correspondent, and then compiled this list of things which, he said, women of all ages can do incomparably better than mere men:

Dress lightly without catching cold.

Cry at the right moment.

Avoid an argument by a smile.

Choose a present.

Obtain a special dish for a dog in a restaurant.

Write a long letter and say nothing.

Remove a speck of dust from another person's eye.

Choose underwear for the opposite sex without embarrassment.

Disturb a score of people in a cinema before finding a seat.

Drink very hot drinks without flinching.

Well, that's his list. What's yours?

SURPRISING

At a time when everyone is clamouring for more pay it comes as a surprise to learn that a man has declined half the increase of salary offered him. He is Mr. M. C. Dowding, clerk to the Urban Council at Stone, Staffs. He is satisfied with his job and wishes to help the town.

George Washington Carvar, the Negro scientist, repeatedly refused fabulous offers from great industrialists, and when he retired at the age of eighty-three, was one of the most poorly paid members of the faculty. He had not asked for a rise in forty-seven years and some of his pay cheques had not been cashed for ten years! He had enough to live on and loved his work. Nothing else mattered.

Another moderate man was Harwey W. Wiley, responsible for most of America's pure food laws. Year after year he went before the House Committee on Agriculture to ask for increases for his assistants. One year the President said: "Dr. Wiley, you come here year after year to ask for increase for your assistants, but I do not recollect that you have asked for a rise for yourself."

"My salary," answered Wiley, "has been 2,500 dollars for the last nineteen years; but I am a bachelor and have plenty to live on. They haven't."

One of the scientists under him was getting 3,500 dollars, so the committee doubled Wiley's salary—and he never asked for an increase as long as he worked for them!

THEIR WAY

A New York City man drove his wife to the airport and put her on a plane for Buffalo, about 300 miles away. After fighting his way through the trafic, he finally got back home and, wearily ascending the steps, found this telegram in his letter-box: "Arrived safely. Love, Lulu."

GUARDS OF HONOUR

When information reached a native police chief in New Guinea the other day that the administrator and some other bigwigs were to pay a visit, he hurriedly got his ten-men squad spruced up and ready for the reception of the V.I.P.s.

An aircraft landed just about the time when the administrator was due. The police chief, his squad lined up behind him, asked the pilot whom he had on board. "Just a couple of old goats," the pilot replied.

The police chief, accustomed to the disrespectful aspersions sometimes cast on high personages, took it for granted that the administrator was one of the "old goats" and, when the landing door opened, got his men to snap to attention and present arms.

Out shuffled two very ancient goats which had been ordered from a neighbouring island by a farmer!

SNORERS

Who snore the louder, men or women? The usual complaint that men do has once and for all been debunked by Colgate University, U.S.A., where physiologists made a study of some 1,000 men and women snorers. Professors came up with the news that they found it impossible to distinguish between male and female snorers!

ಯಜುರುಪಾಕರ್ಮ ೦—೪—೦.

ಯಜುಸ್ಸಂಧ್ಯಾವಂದನೆ ೦—೪—೦.

ವಿಶಿಷ್ಟಾದ್ವೈತಸಾರ

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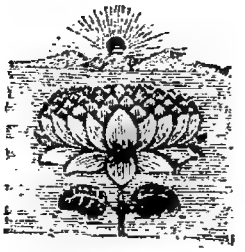

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A DESERVED HONOUR

We are informed that H. H. Jayachamaraja Wodiyar received Brahmasri G. N. Jayatirthachar and his preceptor and father Sri Narasimha Murthyachar, in audience on Tuesday last, and offered him *khillats* in appreciation of his great Sanskrit erudition and excellent efforts in the propagation of our ancient culture.

We publish below two addresses presented to Brahmasri Jayatirthachar at the Tilak Vidyapith and Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute, Poona :

'विद्यादेवीमुपासहे.'

तिलक महाराष्ट्र विद्यापीठ, पुणे २. संस्कृत विद्यामण्डल.

श्रीमतां जयतीर्थाचार्यविदुषां टिलक महाराष्ट्र विद्यापीठेन प्रचालिते संस्कृत महाविद्यालये संस्कृतभाषायां 'भागवतधर्मः' इति विषये भौमे २२—१२—१९५४ दिनांके उपन्यासः समभूत् । तेन च वयं सर्वेऽपि समाहिता अभूमः । महानुभावानां विशेषतः निखिलेऽपि वेदशास्त्रविषये संस्कृतवाङ्मये श्रीमद्भागवते च सर्वतोमुखं प्रभुत्वं साक्षात्कृत्य तथैव भागवतधर्मविषये आचारान्वितं श्रद्धातिशयं च विलोक्य सर्वथा पुण्यभाजो वयं इत्यात्मानं धन्यं मन्यामहे ॥ सर्वेऽपि एतेषां उपरितनं गुणविशेषमास्वाद्य भागवतधर्मपरायणा भवेयुरिति तं भगवन्तं लक्ष्मीजानिं प्रार्थयामहे ॥

संस्कृत विद्यालयप्रमुखः,
२४—१२—५४. वा. बा. भागवत.
अन्ये अध्यापकाः छात्राश्च.
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श्रीः.

भाण्डारकर ओरियेंटल रीसर्च इन्स्टिट्यूट.
डेक्कन जिमखाना, पुणे ४. (इंडिया).
ता. २३—१२—५४.

अध्यक्षस्य प्रोफेसर व्ही. ए. रामस्वामिशास्त्रिणः
उपक्रमोपन्यासः.

नमः सदसे ।

अतीव प्रमोदस्थानमिदं यदद्य इयं सभा महनीये अस्मिन् प्राच्यग्रन्थभाण्डागारे प्रचलति तत्र च बेंगलूरु देशादागताः इमे जयतीर्थाचार्यमहाभागाः उपन्यासरत्नाकरादि नैकविरुदभूषिताः प्रवक्तारः 'वेदशास्त्रमहिमा' इति विषयमधिकृत्योपन्यसिष्यन्ति । तत्र च मया आध्यक्षं स्वीकर्तव्यमित्येतत्सभानिर्वर्तकैः नियोजितोऽहं तं निर्वोढुं अत्रागतोऽस्मि । वेदशास्त्रमहिमा इत्ययं विषयः अतिगहनः । वेदरूपं शास्त्रं तस्य महिमा, वेदाः तन्मूलकानि शास्त्राणि च तेषां महिमा इत्युभयथापि व्याख्यातुं शक्यते । तत्र प्रवक्तॄणां कोऽर्थो अभिमत इति न ज्ञायते । उभयमपि इदमेव तत्र शास्त्रशब्दः प्राधान्येन वेदवाचकः । 'शासनाच्छंसनाद्वापि शास्त्रमित्यभिधीयते' इति अभियुक्तोक्त्या कर्मकाण्डस्य शासनरूपस्य शास्त्रत्वं, ज्ञानकाण्डस्य शंसनरूपत्वाच्छास्त्रत्वमुक्तं भवति । आचार्य शबरस्वामिनोपि स्वकीये भाष्ये औत्पत्तिकसूत्रे प्रमाणनिरूपणावसरे शास्त्रशब्देनैव शब्दप्रमाणं लक्षयन्ति । शास्त्रं शब्दविज्ञानं तु असन्निकृष्टे विज्ञानमिति । एतेन शास्त्रशब्दः प्राधान्येन वेदमेव बोधयति । गौण्या वृत्त्येव लौकिकशब्दान् इति स्पष्टं भवति । एतादृशं गहनं विषयमधिकृत्य करिष्यमाणं उपन्यासं अवहितया बुद्ध्या श्रोतव्यमस्माभिः सर्वैरपि कृतार्थैश्च भवितव्यमिति सप्रश्रयं संप्रार्थ्य, प्रवक्तॄन् श्री जयतीर्थाचार्यमहोदयान् आह्वयामि प्रवक्तुम् ॥

उपसंहारभाषणम्.

अयि जयतीर्थाचार्य महाशयाः !

श्रीमतां जयतीर्थाचार्य महोदयानां सरसया मधुरया च वाण्या गुम्फितोऽयमुपन्यासः अस्मद्धृदयं सम्यगुत्फुल्लयति। एतैश्च सर्वेषां वेदानां भगवद्गुणप्रतिपादन एव मुख्यं तात्पर्यमिति श्रुतिशतैः निस्सङ्कुचैः पुराणेतिहासवाक्यैश्च उदाहृतं पुनरपि तत्र किमपि वक्तुं नोत्सहे । मम तु एतत्प्रतिभाति यत् वेदस्य शास्त्ररूपस्य प्रामाण्यं, अलौकिके विषये तस्य च शास्त्रकारैः अपौरुषेयं तु सर्वज्ञेश्वरप्रणीतत्वं वा अभ्युपगतं, अयमपि विषयः सम्यक्प्रतिपादितः प्रवक्तृभिः । नवीनसांप्रदायरीत्या पौरुषेयत्व-

स्वीकारेऽपि वेदस्य अलौकिक अर्थ एव प्रामाण्यं स्वीकर्तव्यम् । ते तु अलौकिका अर्थाः मुख्यतः पुरुषार्था एव धर्मार्थकाममोक्षरूपाः । तत्र च धर्ममोक्षौ प्राधान्येन वेदेन निरूपितौ । तौ अलौकिकावेव बहुधा शास्त्रकारैः भिन्नभिन्नप्रस्थानप्रवर्तकैः विचार्य निर्णीतौ तत्तद्ग्रन्थेषु । तत्र सर्वत्रापि वेदा एव मुख्यं प्रमाणम् । इतराणि प्रमाणानि लौकिकानि अलौकिकानि च तदविरोधेन नेतव्यानि ॥

'साक्षात्कृतधर्माण ऋषयो बभूवुः' इति निरुक्तकारा वर्णयन्ति । एते च वेदाः साक्षात्कृतधर्मभिः मुनिवरैः शिष्यसहस्रेभ्यः उपदिष्टाः, तैश्च तच्छिष्येभ्यः, इत्येवमनादिशिष्यपरम्परं अद्यावधि समधिगता विराजन्ते । तत्र केवलं लोकप्रतारणार्थं इमे महता प्रयत्नेन सुपरिरक्षिताः उपदिष्टाश्चेति न केनापि वर्णयितुं शक्यते । लौकिकादीनि प्रत्यक्षादीनि अलौकिकेष्वर्थेषु प्रमाणानि न भवन्ति । युक्तिवादश्च (तर्कः) यदि वेदाविरुद्धस्तर्हि ग्राह्य एव । आत्मदर्शनोपायत्वेन श्रूयमाणं मननं श्रुतानां वेदार्थानां युक्तिभिरनुचिन्तनमेव । 'वेदशास्त्राविरोधी च तर्कश्चक्षुरपश्यताम् ।' इति हि अभियुक्ताः उररीकुर्वन्ति । तस्मात् तादृशालौकिकपुरुषार्थविज्ञानाय वेदाः अध्येतव्याः, तत्तद्वेदाङ्गशास्त्राभ्यासनेन यथायोग्यं तदर्थाश्चावगन्तव्या अलौकिकनिःश्रेयसप्रतिपत्तये । इत्थं वेदस्यालौकिकार्थप्रमाणतां किमपि सूचयित्वा सर्वेभ्यः इमां सभामलंकृतवद्भ्यस्सभ्येभ्यः विशिष्य च उपन्यसितृभ्यः मत्प्रणामान् विज्ञाप्य विरमामि ॥

अयि सभ्याः सभाध्यक्षाश्च !

अथ खल्वस्यां वेदशास्त्रमहत्त्वविषयकगीर्वाणवाण्युपन्याससभायां अस्मत्कार्यालयाध्यक्षवरैः बेलवलकर महाभागैः आदिष्टोऽहं एतत्सभावशिष्टं अन्तिमं आभारप्रदर्शनं विषयमधिकृत्य द्वित्रैरेव वाक्यैः मदीयमाशयं श्रीमतां पुरतः समुपस्थास्यामि । अद्यावधि भाण्डारकर प्राच्यविद्यासंशोधनमन्दिरे गीर्वाणभाषोपन्यसनं अतिविरलमेव समजनिष्टेति विदितमेव सर्वेषां विदुषाम् । साम्प्रतं प्राग्द्वित्रेभ्यो अहोभ्यः कल्याणपुरीवास्तव्यानां अधुना इहागतानां पण्डितवर श्रीजयतीर्थाचार्याणां मनागिव संस्कृत संभाषणश्रवणेन भृशं संतुष्टान्तरङ्गाः सद्य एव अस्मदध्यक्षाः सभामिमां आतनिषत । धीमत्तमानां अमीषां अयं सार्धचतुर्वादनसमय एतत्सभाप्रवर्तनात्मकः उद्यमः अतीव समंजस एवेति निश्चप्रचं मन्महे । इतरथा यदि अन्यसभेव इयमपि षड्वादने प्रारप्स्यत वयमपि केचन तदा सभाप्रयोजनविशेषं अलभमाना नात्र संन्यधास्यामेति निभृतं वक्तुं नानुचितमिति प्रतीमः । अस्तु.

प्रकृते एते खलु श्रीमन्तः जयतीर्थाचार्याः कृतवेदागमपरिश्रमाः, अपिच श्रीमद्भागवत श्रीमद्भगवद्गीतादि ग्रन्थेषु कृतभूरिश्रमाः विप्रकृष्टविषयेषु प्रकटीकृतनिजवैदुष्या वर्तन्ते इति तदीय नैकप्रशंसापत्रैरेव अध्यवस्यामः । तथात्रापि वयं एकान्तेन निश्चिनुमः यदिमे गीर्वाणवागुपन्यसने नितरां अनितरसाधारणं पाण्डित्यं बिभ्रतीति । एवमेव सर्वत्र गीर्वावाणीप्रचारेण प्रभान्तः चिरं जीयासुः इति ह्यनिशमाशास्महे ॥

अपिच आसेतोराचहिमालयात् स्वपाण्डित्यप्रकाशेन अतिप्रसिद्धाः प्राधान्येन उभयभाषापारावारपारदृश्वानः अद्यतनसभाध्यक्षाः दक्षिणकलासंशोधनमन्दिरे विषयविशेषाधिकारिणः ब्रह्मश्री रामस्वामि शास्त्रिणः नास्माकमप्यविदितचरा एव इत्यत्र विशिष्य अधिकं वक्तुं न वयं प्रभवस्स्मः । इमेऽपि भगवदनुग्रहेण सुदृढकायाः चिरं गीर्वाणवाणीप्रचारधुरन्धरा विश्वस्य भावुकायाप्रदो भूयन्तामिति विश्वस्य विश्वेश्वरं प्रार्थयामः ॥

अथ च एतावत्समयेन वेदशास्त्रादिविविधविद्यासंपन्ना इमे सभास्ताराश्च सोत्साहं श्रुतोपन्यासाः परमामोदेन सभामिमामलमकृत इत्यत्र तेषामपि अमोघमाभारं प्रदर्शयितुमुत्सहामह इति सर्वे सुस्थम् ॥

इति

के. व्हि. अनन्तनारायणशास्त्री.
प्राच्यविद्यासंशोधनमन्दिरम्.

The Rationalist

MANMATHA

We wish our readers happiness and prosperity during the year which has just commenced.

Normally the new year commences the day after the twelfth New-moon Day of the old year. But this year there has been a *dies non* between the two.

Why? Possibly, since Mr. Nehru was having the Lok Sabha in session, the New Year waited to see whether he would dismiss the "Shalivahana Era" and declare a new era. But possibly Mr. Nehru's secretaries did not draw his attention to the matter; and "Manmatha" made bold to set in.

It is absurd to call it the Telugu New Year's Day, and the 13th April the Tamil New Year's Day. The Languages have nothing to do with the matter. The former is based on the motions of the moon round the earth, and the latter on the earth's motion in relation to the Sun.

The 60 samvatsaras in the Hindu calendar and the Chaitra and other months divided into full-moon and new-moon halves, are not special for the Telugu people or country, but are common all over India. The solar calculation is only special for the Tamil country. It is therfore silly to call the 1st of Chaitra Telugu New Year s Day and dismiss it as referring only to them.

Another point has to be noticed. While the solar New year Day has been reckoned a holiday, the lunar New Year day has been denied a holiday!

If the Moon, cared he could have filed a suit under the discriminatory clause in the Constitution. That would make things worse both for the Constitution and the Federal Court. The Constitution which Mr. Nehru and his wiseacres took 4 years to hatch, is already being unhatched to suit Mr. Nehru's changing whims. The Federal Court which in a civilised community is an arbiter of good Government, has already roused the ire of Mr. Nehru; and his Deputy, Mr. Pant,—who looks like a retired heavy-weight prize-fighter,—has even openly warned the Federal Court and other Judges to be more careful. He as good as directed the Federal Judges to decide cases so as to please the Prime and Home Ministers and the Lok Sabha!

The moon must have thought that under such moon-struck politicians, he had better forego the holiday, rather than put the Federal Judges in an awkward predicament or even in fear of existence. The moon in his day, has seen many Delhis rise and crumble, and the whole Nehru dynasty, from the time of Adam up to now, rise and set, and thinks that its latest scion, young Jawahar, is for a brief span riding the wild horse of power, without reins or stirrup, clutching the manes with both hands, like John Gilpin. We also think so.

Editor.

We acknowledge with thanks two well-got up Panchangas, from the well-known ephemerists of Mysore, Sri Vidwan Krishna Jois and Mahavidwan Sampathkrishna Jois, and Sri M. S. Chandrasekhara Jois.

MISTAKES

We all make mistakes at times. Some people make more than others, but nobody is infallible. After all, we're only human.

That's why it's pretty safe to predict that a certain young business man in the United States won't be able to keep his remarkable and rather rash New Year resolution.

He announced to his friends; "I have resolved to try to go right through the year 1955 without making a single mistake in my business or private life."

Well, good luck to him. But he has undertaken a big task. He may prove, of course, to be unique in this imperfect world and manage to get through the year without once having to say: "Sorry, my mistake." But it's unlikely.

His resolution, anyway, will probably help him to avoid making a major mistake.

Many queer mistakes, some having far-reaching consequences, are constantly being made.

Two hours after leaving London in an æroplane not long ago an Irish farmer asked the air hostess what time they were due at Shannon Airport. She looked surprised. He was told the next stop was Iceland!

In the wrong 'plane the farmer had to fly on to New York. He was given two days there at the air company's expense and then taken back to Shannon.

Within a few minutes of the opening of a fine new post office, costing a million pounds, in Pennsylvania a few years ago, people began complaining that there was no letter-box attached to the magnificent building!

The dismayed postmaster got in touch with the architects who shamefacedly confessed that they had forgotten all about that important item in the building! The mistake was quickly rectified.

The pretty cashier in a butcher's shop in Minneapolis, U.S.A., used to wrap up the takings every day in brown paper before taking the money round to the bank.

She was always busy. One day not long ago she was thinking more of her boy friend whom she was going to meet that evening than of her work, which included wrapping up meat for customers as well as taking their cash.

Closing time came, she powdered her nose and picked up the parcel to take to the bank. She dropped it like a red-hot brick, fearing the worst. Then with trembling fingers she tore off the wrapping—to reveal a large piece of rump steak!

By mistake she had handed an unknown customer about £400. A newspaper recording the error headlined its story: "What a Mistake!" The money was never recovered.

Some quite small mistakes have had disastrous results.

The sculptor of an equestrian statue in a north of England town was so pleased with it that he challenged experts to find a fault in it. They could not.

But on the day it was unveiled a country lad among the audience shouted out as the statue stood revealed: "Look! He's forgotten to put the stirrups on!" It was true!

The sculptor was so distressed that two days later he committed suicide!

Mistakes sometimes have a funny side. Some time ago people were surprised to see cabbages, broccoli and tomato plants springing up all over a Yorkshire playing field and a border of nasturtiums lining the touch-line.

Yes, somebody had made a mistake. Groundsmen explained that seeds had accidentally been mixed with the ashes dug into the clay foundation of the new playing field.

A biscuit firm employs a man at a good salary to do nothing but look for mistakes. Every day this eagle-eyed individual tours the

various departments in the factory, looking for misspellings on the labels, letters printed upside down, and so on.

He lives by mistakes, and is so keen that he occasionally routs out some biscuits whose edges are not symmetrical. The mistakes he spots are only small, but the firm knows that such minor errors can make all the difference between commercial success and failure.

Builders have been known to make some odd mistakes. In 1950 an Austrian building contractor completed a fine block of flats and the buildings seemed ready for occupation until someone pointed out that he had forgotten to include any staircases!

A Manchester builder who erected a small row of "desirable residences" yesrs ago put all the fire places carefully in position, but completely forgot to install chimneys!

One of the luckiest mistakes ever made over a horse-race netted a fortune for King Edward VII when he was Prince of Wales. He wanted to back a horse called Orvieto at Sandown and asked a friend to make the bet for him.

The friend misheard him and put the money on another horse, Orme, which came in first. The Prince thought he had lost until his friend announced that he had won £10,000!

BRAHMOTSAVA AT MELKOTE

The Brahmotsava of God Sreeman Narayana at Melkote will commence on the 28th inst, and continue for ten days concluding with Mahabhisheka on the 8th April. The world famed Vairamudi or Diamond-Crown procession will take place on the 2nd April. It is expected that a large concourse of pilgrims will take advantage of the return to normal times to offer worship to the benevolent Deity for their own salvation as well as for world peace. Government through the District Authorities are making adequate arrangements for the convenience of pilgrims.

SPIRIT TRAVEL

A man has travelled 1000 miles in a split second, leaving his body in mid-ocean!

The account of this remarkable alleged experience of projection, or "astral-travelling," has been cited as a "classic example" of extra-sensory perception by Dr. Hornel Hart, Professor of Sociology at Duke University, U.S.A.

The man, a reputable New York doctor, was making a trip on a small ship sailing between Jacksonville and Palatka, in Florida. He had, for several days, been having curious impressions of unreality and of "psychological detachment."

One night he noticed that his feet and legs were becoming cold and numb. Then he had the feeling that he was walking on air combined with a sense of great freedom and clear-headedness. He thought of a friend who was at that moment more than 1000 miles away.

Almost immediately, he was conscious of standing in a room where his friend was also standing, with his back towards him. Suddenly his friend turned round and saw him.

"What are you doing here?" he exclaimed. "I thought you were in Florida!" The doctor distinctly heard the words, but was incapable of replying.

Then he was back, saw his body stretched out on the bed, and returned to it!

Now he has had a letter from the friend he "visited" in his dream state, stating that he retains a clear consciousness of the apparition, and had spoken the very same words which were heard by the doctor!

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"Looking at one page I thought it must be a man of 70 to possess all that wisdom; looking at another I told myself that virile vigour of expression shows him to be a man at the prime of life; and looking at still another I thought that only a boy of twenty-one could be so absolutely sure about anything! Which is right? Why don't authors put their pictures in their books so that one might turn to the pages when puzzled?"

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THE GENTLE MAN

The minds of the people of the world are today dominated by a single thought: the possibility of the destruction of the world as we know it by a nuclear holocaust, and the urgent necessity of preventing this.

Behind this grim possibility are three letters, a figure and an algebraic sign which a young man of 26 working in the patent office at Berne, Switzerland, wrote down in 1905 $E = m c2$.

The young man's name was Albert Einstein whose 76th birthday the world celebrated during March.

The man who wrote down this equation for the convertibility of mass into energy, which is the basis of all nuclear weapons, was again the first to tell the Allies that it had passed from the realm of possibility into the realm of probability.

On August 2, 1939, he wrote to President Franklin Delano Roosevelt that "the recent work in atomic physics has made it possible that an atomic bomb may be constructed."

But the man whose theoretical work foreshadowed the grimmest reality of our time is a simple, gentle man. And he is a legend in his own lifetime.

The nations of the world, except his Fatherland, Germany, have vied with one another to do him honour. For Einstein is a Jew who left Germany when an upstart Jew-baiting house-painter named Schikelgruber was ranting his way to power in 1933.

"In Germany once," Einstein recalls, "a hundred Nazi Professors collaborated on a book to prove that my theories were poppycock. Imagine! If I really was wrong, one would have been quite enough."

In 1933 he went to America and in 1940 became an American citizen. Princeton University offered him a lifetime post in the Institute for Advanced Study which he gratefully accepted.

Today with his shock of frizzy grey hair, shapeless clothes and inevitable pipe, he is a familiar figure in the Princeton suburb where he lives.

His home is furnished with Spartan simplicity. According to those who have felt it, his couch is the nearest thing to a fakir's bed of nails. But on it Professor Einstein sleeps like a log!

Many stories have been woven round Einstein. Many of them are undoubtedly apocryphal. Others, undoubtedly, are true.

Among the latter is the one about a twelve-year-old girl who fell into the habit of dropping in on the Professor every day on her way to school. Her parents were gratified but somewhat mystfied too.

One evening the mother found an opportunity to ask the Professor: "What do you two talk about every day?"

"Oh," laughed Einstein, "she brings me cookies and I do her arithmetic for her."

Oddly enough Einstein is not exactly a wizard at the simplest forms of arithmetic. Income-tax forms baffle and dismay him as they do ordinary mortals like you and me.

A clerk at the Princeton Bookstore caught him glancing at an income-tax guide once and asked him if he would like one.

"Good heavens, no" cried the Professor, "it's terrible enough to have to figure out the tax without having to read a whole book about it!"

But in the rarefied air of higher mathematics, Einstein is at home.

Some weeks after they landed in America he and his wife were taken to the Mount Wilson Observatory in California.

Mrs. Einstein was particularly impressed by the giant telescope. "What on earth do they do with it?" she asked. Her host explained

that one of its chief purposes was to find out the shape of the universe!

"Oh," said Mrs. Einstein "My husband does that on the back of an old envelope."

As a matter of fact Einstein has often said that he could write down everything basic he knows about relativity within three pages.

That is one of the fundamental drives of all scientists. Not only must their theories and equations check with the facts of the physical world, but they must have simplicity, "elegance" and "beauty."

A poet once wrote of Newton;

"Nature and nature's laws lay hid in night.
God said, "Let Newton be!" and all was light!"

To which another replied:

"It did not last, the Devil howling, "He,
Let Einstein be!" restored the status quo!"

Notwithstanding this, and paradoxical as it may sound, Einstein's entire life has been devoted to simplifying the picture of the universe.

Albert Einstein was born at Ulm, Wurtemberg, on March 14, 1879. After Albert was born, his father, a dealer in chemicals moved to Munich where the boy went to school.

As he writes about it, two experiences acted as turning points in Albert Einstein's mental aptitude. For while he was not considered to be an exceptionally bright boy at school, at the age of four or five he saw a compass needle in the earth's field and somehow realised that there were some universal laws in nature.

Then at the age of eight or ten he learned Geometry and was able to prove the Theorem of Pythagoras.

These were the two early thrills in his life which set the ultimate pattern. V. H.

(To be continued.)

THE DRUNK'S CHART

What he calls a "drinkometer chart" has been drawn up by a Dutch lawyer to show what conditions to expect from varying percentages of alcohol in the blood.

He bases it on information obtained in connection with drunken driving prosecutions over a long period. The chart gives the following likely results for given percentages of alcohol:—

0·1 per cent.: The person is lucid.

0·2 per cent.: He is indifferent to the weather and to his personal appearance.

0·3 per cent.: He says: "I don't mind lending you some money."

0·4 per cent.: He says: "You don't think I'm tipsy, do you?"

0·5 per cent.: He is unable to light a match.

0·7 per cent.: He is unable to stand up without overturning his chair.

1 per cent.: He says: "The motorists approaching me were driving on the wrong side of the road."

2 per cent.: He needs help in walking and dressing and cannot recall where he spent the previous night.

3 per cent.: He keeps falling asleep.

4 per cent.: He is in a deep coma which may well prove fatal.

A RISING BOY

James Renaldi, aged eighteen, can say two words in twenty-seven languages—"Shoeshine, sir?" He works in the United Nations buildings at Lake Success, and hasn't made a mistake yet addressing anyone of the many different nationalities visiting there!

The Rationalist

THE MYSORE BANK

In order to bid farewell to Sri Srihari, B.A., B.L., Manager of Market Branch of the Bank of Mysore, Ltd., a pleasant function was arranged at Indra Bhavan Buildings, Mysore, on the 30th evening, by some of the leading merchants of Mysore.

There was a select gathering present. Mr. M. S. Cheluviengar requested Sri G. R. Josyer to preside over the function, and read a brief address narrating the bright career of Sri Srihari in the University, and subsequently in various capacities in the Bank of Mysore. On behalf of the assembled constituents of the Bank he prayed that God would bestow all happiness and prosperity on him in the future. Addressing the gathering Sri G. R. Josyer observed:

"Gentlemen,

We are assembled to bid farewell to Sri Srihari of the Mysore Bank.

The Bank of Mysore is one of the precious gifts to Mysore, of the greatest and oldest living Mysorean, Sri M. Visweswaraya. He may also be called the Father of Planning in India.

Just as Dewan Rangacharlu thought that Railways would improve the country, and Sir Seshadri Iyer thought that Electricity would improve the country, Sri Visweswaraya thought that Banks, hotels, Merchants' Chambers and Industrial concerns would improve the country. The Mysore Bank is one of his most successful contributions to the progress of Mysore.

Its first Chairman and Manager, Sir Puttanna Chetty and W. C. Rose, were both men of exceptional qualities, and formed a nice combination. They built up the Bank by their personal popularity, and careful husbandry of its resources. Their successors, among whom I should pick out Messrs. Mathan, K. R. Srinivasiengar, and the astute businessman and excellent gentleman, the present Chairman, my esteemed friend, Rajasevasakta Sri D. Subbarama Chetty, and among Managers, O,Brien' and Sri Narayana Reddy, alert, versatile,—like Justice Rajamannar of Madras,—and bubbling with spirits, the present Chief.

Other minor stars of the Bank who have been its pillars during these years, I cannot help remembering, Mr. T. M. S. Subrahmanyam, A. S. Mallappa, Rama Iyer, Venkataramiah. The Mysore Branch owes its continued progress and its present well-being, to the popularity and personality of Sri Veerabhadra Setty,—whose name itself sounds like a strong-room! And Sri Srihari, is the Father of the Market Branch!

By the efforts of these and other personnel, the Mysore Bank has reached the 12 crore mark, and has been kept at it for nearly 2 decades.

John Pierpont Morgan, the greatest Banker of America, expressed the view once, "A man might not have anything. I have known a man to come to my office, and I have given him a cheque for a million dollars, and I knew that he had not a cent in the world!" He got back that million dollars, with interest, safely!

That kind of insight into the credit-worthiness of men was till now the requisite of a Manager. But that is now over, under the fine control of the Reserve Bank. Now to get a loan of 1 million you must already be worth 2 millions! That is, loans are to be given only to the well-to-do, and not to the honest. Mr. Srihari gave, or is giving, charge of 5 lakhs worth of gold jewels—to his successor Mr. Subba Rao—on which he has lent Rs. 2 lakhs!

John D. Rockefeller, the founder of the Rockefeller charities, told one of his Managers,

"My experience has shown me that it is just as easy to turn a good man into a poor one, as it is to turn a poor man into a good one. Many of the most valued Assistants I have around me, seemed to be unpromising material at first; and let me say, Mr.—, that includes yourself! Take time to talk with those young fellows when you are alone. Talk to them about business, just as you would talk to me. Thirty minutes of that will put two years of steadiness into them. They will have something to think about. You will have men instead of employees. Rouse interest, and you enlist their interest, and the energy that interest never fails to produce."

The good-will and esteem that Mr. Srihari has enjoyed from his staff during the few years that he has been Manager, are an example of that good precept of Rockefeller.

And you, select, estimable Mysore citizens, who have organised this function, have done so out of genuine regard for his good qualities and to mark the pleasant relationship that has existed between you and him. I am, as your mouthpiece, to convey to him the appreciation of you all for his courtesy, kindness, and helpful integrity, which he has invariably manifested towards you. I also convey to him our good wishes for the future, and our hope that he will rise from one place of trust to another, working for the stability and prosperity of the Bank, thereby ensuring his own prosperity.

On your behalf, I wish also a good time amidst us to Mr. D. Subba Rao as Manager."

Dr. C. Dwaraknath Principal of the Ayurvedic College spoke of the many helpful qualities of Sri Srihari, and his wide intellectual interests. Mr. S. P. Veerabhadra Shetty, Manager of the Mysore Branch, spoke of his intimate association with Sri Srihari, and the good work done at the Market Branch, and hoped that with the Nationalisation of the Bank, he would have opportunities of serving in more important positions.

In acknowledging the good wishes offered, Sri Srihari observed that he hardly deserved all the praise bestowed on him by his well-wishers, that he had only done his best to maintain the good name of the Bank and fulfil his duties faithfully and efficiently, and recounted the opportunities he had had, as Manager, of meeting various types of humanity. As a loyal servant of the Bank, it was always his interest to fulfil his duties in the best interests of the Bank, commensurate with due service to the public. He thanked the very learned Chairman and the distinguished organisers for their kind thoughts of him and appreciation of his services. He then performed mutual introductions between the merchants present and his successor, Sri D. Subba Rao, who assured them that he would strive to continue the good work of the Mysore Bank amidst them. With a vote of thanks proposed to the Chair by Mr. Cheluviengar the pleasant function terminated.

A. I. R., MYSORE

In the series of talks in Kannada on "Indian concept of Warfare", arranged by the All-India Radio, Mysore, Sri G. R. Josyer, M.A., F.R.E.S., will give a talk in Kannada on "Weapons", at 7-30 p.m. on Saturday, the 9th instant.

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MARS, OUR COMPETITOR?

Observations which astronomers in many parts of the world are planning to make through more powerful telescopes may solve in 1955 the centuries-old question: Are there men on Mars?

One astronomer has said that if we could meet a creature from Mars we would probably find him "too uncanny and too clever for us." He might also be millions of years ahead of us in evolution.

Scientists are still divided on the question of whether Martians exist on the red planet so many millions of miles away. Some say the only life is a strange kind of bright vegetation which makes Mars look red.

But the Astronomer-Royal, Sir Harold Spencer Jones, believes it is desert that gives the planet its ruddy colour. He has pointed out that other parts of the surface are greenish in colour.

It is believed that the rarefied atmosphere of Mars is rather like that which exists 100,000 feet above the earth's surface. Warm-blooded creatures, because of the lack of oxygen, could not therefore exist on Mars, says one world-famous astronomer. But he does not rule out the possibility of *some* kind of life flourishing there.

What form might it take? That is what the astronomers hope to find out.

It was the Italian artronomer Schiaparelli who, in 1877, started the notion that there might be living, thinking Martians.

He found that the dark patches on Mars which earlier observers had called "oceans" were connected by narrow streaks, sometimes many hundreds of miles long. He called these streaks channels or canals.

What astronomers now want to find out is whether these channels were constructed by Martains to carry water from the melting polar caps for purposes of irrigation, or are they just surface features of Mars?

If the question of who lives on Mars is not satisfactorily answered this year it may be on September 11th, 1956, when Mars will be comparatively close to the earth—only 35,500,000 miles away!

OLD IS BEST

Feeling out of sort? The remedy may be growing in your own back garden—or so believe thousands of people in Britain.

More and more herbs are being grown and imported for use in "official" cures, and for those who like to make up their own remedies.

Plants that were used medicinally hundreds of years ago are being rediscovered today.

Strange thing is that although many of them grow wild here, it pays importers to get them from distant countries.

One wholesale firm in London imports about ten tons of dandelion roots a year! Most are used for tonics and internal remedies—and as a substitute for coffee.

Tons of peppermint leaf, comfrey leat and elderflowers are imported from the Balkans to make cold and flu cures.

Broom shoots for use in heart medicine are gathered in Bedfordshire.

Two or three years ago chemists found that the roots of Raulwolfia Luperntin, a plant growing in the Himalaya Mountains, were of great use in the treatment of high blood pressure.

The plant is not easy to collect, and its price may be as much as 7s. 6d. a pound. But it is so effective that it is now an important import.

Strange thing is that research workers have discovered that hundreds of years ago it was used in India and China as a similar remedy!

HISTORY OF MYSORE
AND THE
YADAVA DYNASTY

BY

G. R. JOSYER, M.A. HONS., F.R.E.S.

AUTHOR

"Sociology,", "Politics, Philosophy, and Phantasy," Etc.

"By far the greater part of the work is concerned with the history of the present ruling house of Mysore from its traditional beginning in 1399 till the year 1950 when the present Maharaja was installed as *Rajapramukh* of the newly-created Mysore State of the Indian Union. The dynasty, as is well-known, passed through a series of singular vicissitudes through the period of its early struggles, its supersession by Hyder Ali and Tippu Sultan and the assumption of administration of the State by the East India Company from 1831, to 1867. Since then, thanks to a succession of able rulers and administrators and their Dewans, the State has made phenomenal advance in educational, economic and (latterly) constitutional development. Of this long period the author gives a readable and valuable account in course of which he does adequate justice to the memory of two of Mysore's able, but unfortunate sovereigns, *viz.*, Maharani Lakshammanni and Maharaja Mummadi Krishnaraja Wodayar. The value of the book would have been enhanced by the addition of a bibliography and a map. Paper, print and the general get up are excellent."

Modern Review, Calcutta.

"**A Splendid History.**" Dr. Sir C. R. Reddy, Pro-Chancellor.

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MYSORE

THE GREAT SCANDAL

"What has happened to our Maharaja's College? I can understand the non-Mysorean Members of the Staff behaving sillily. But the present Vice-Chancellor who is an old student of the College and who has spent all thirty years of his service in that institution ought to have known Mitra Mela better than any other person, and should have abolished it on the day he became responsible for the honour and tradition of the University. To all observers from afar the news has come as a shock and as a new type of disease in the Colleges.

There are two aspects of the whole question, namely general and particular. Let me anayse the former first. Everybody knows that the professors and vice-chancellors who were associated with the University in the first decade of its history were models of their profession and a source of pride to Mysore State. The vice-chancellors were men of awe, and platonic love was confined to one or two, but outside the precincts of the university. In the second decade there were a series of professors who were in no sense brilliant but conscientious in the discharge of their duties and sensitive to the dignity and reputation of the university. They would not run away in search of fresh fields and pastures new, because the member in charge of the university portfolio in the State executive council was intelligent and capable, the Vice-Chancellor was strict and straight, and the scale and salaries of professors were good enough to create an inferiority complex within them, so that the professors of the first decade would boss over those of the second openly, and these low-paid professors too would salaam and 'sir' their seniors at every meeting. In the third decade the University Act helped to bring in professors who were more like the fabulous asses in lion's skin than like fires disguised in ash! Politicians entered the sanctum sanctorum of the university, namely the University Council, and played the veritable scorpion-in-authority on the Vice-Chancellor, principals and professors, and what was worse, they appointed their own favourites as professors, drove out a few who would not be their slaves or kept the vacancies unfilled. From that time onwards the university administration worked on wheels within wheels, and professors of the new type could not be touched by even the Education Minister who was himself a man of ambition, and it is doubtful if the Vice-Chancellor was more than a salaried servant of the university answering objections to his own allowances or seeking extensions of his own service. In the fourth decade, i.e., the present one, democracy which had established itself in government entered the university among other spheres of life. Students came into their own and egged on by party-leaders they challenged their own teachers. The Majority of these in their turn took shelter under protective flags of political parties and cared a straw for the good name of the university. Every college became thereupon a picture of confusion, a stage for factious fights, a place of misunderstandings, etc. The news of outbursts of indiscipline in other universities inspired similar outbursts here, and the evil developed progressively and in geometrical proportions. The celebrations of Youth Festival at New Delhi last winter to which the University sent a big contingent served only to place a cap on the head of indiscipline among the students of all universities, not excluding our own, in India. The net result is (a) the Vice-Chancellor of Mysore University is a fly on the wheel, (b) the professors are slaves of political bosses within the university, (c) the students are sovereign, (d) the education minister is like Hamlet soliloquising 'To be or not to be governor of the university', and (e) the whole university is in a mess! If ever the Mysore University called for control and audit it is now. Autonomy was

responsible for existence of Mitra Mela and will breed a hundred more Mitra Melas if the State will not remove the existing evils without relinquishing its control. Purification of character must have precedence over reform of organisation and power.

I now turn to the purely local or particular aspect. Something of this aspect has been described already. But the core of it lies in the pulling of strings by the high and mighty in the State, especially in the affairs of the Maharaja's College. Until the third decade there was nothing of this kind. But as the old order yielded its place to the new this College became an annexe of another institution, which can be justifiably stated to be organically connected with the College. It was enough to get a chit from this institution to receive a promotion in the College. This tendency became deep-rooted in the College as time went on, with the result that in the present times it is possible to achieve what was once impossible to Professor Rollo or Professor Wadia or to men of learning like Professor M. Hiriyanna or Professor Gopalaswami. It cannot be denied that appointments go no longer with qualifications generally in all Colleges of the University or that men of Maharaja's College are specially fortunate in the current decade. Like the spoiled children of a zamindar's family, these men of the capital can do anything with impunity, they can do no wrong, and theirs is the crown of the highest office in the university for the mere asking.

In these circumstances I am not at all surprised that a few members of the staff of the Maharaja's College have publicly misbehaved (as reported in the press) under the very nose of their Vice-Chancellor. Either he knew the tendencies in Mitra Mela full well and felt helpless, or he saw nothing wrong in the affairs of Mitra Mela to abolish it altogether in good time. At any rate, the people of Mysore are entitled to know the facts from top to bottom and from first to last.

I am sorry I have gone to some length in the discussion of this filthy topic. But you can see that the mischief is not an accident or a stray one. In my own time I saw in Mitra Mela strong tendencies for misbehaviour. But the favourites of government, political parties and other external forces were connected with it, and even political bosses of the university were neck-deep wi hin it. No one of us could dare go anywhere near Mitra Mela; and all that we could do was to respond coldly to its invitations. I think the enquiry by the Ad hoc Committee will be full, free and fearless, and I hope its report will be honest."

Writes an esteemed correspondent who is dismayed by the filth in which this institution of learning is wallowing, the odour of which even touches Delhi, whose Vice-President was once on its staff of preceptors. In those days Professorship meant the priesthood of the Goddess of Learning. Now Professorship has become the toy of men of limited learning and unlimited immorality, animals wearing men's skin, with empty brains, and hearts like cess-pools breeding only miasmic germs.

To them "Times are changing", and this is "the trend of the times"!

And when University institutions can come down so low even under Government supervision, wind-bag braggarts like Lakshmanaswamy Mudaliar,—one of the Airavana-Myravana twins,—claim autonomy for the universities, so that Colleges might openly convert themselves into bucket-shops and night-clubs!

Our correspondent expects something honest from the Committee of enquiry. We wonder how Mr. Shingaravelu allowed himself to be mixed up with that company. Almost everyone of its members himself deserves an enquiry!

Editor.

The Rationalist

ಭಾರತೀಯರ ಆಯುಧಗಳು

[ಮೈಸೂರು ಆಕಾಶವಾಣಿಯಿಂದ 9-4-1955 ರಲ್ಲಿ ಜಿ. ಆರ್. ಜೋಸ್ಯರ್‌ರವರು ಮಾಡಿದ ಭಾಷಣ.]

ಪ್ರಾಚೀನ ಭಾರತೀಯರಲ್ಲಿ ಬಳಕೆಯಲ್ಲಿದ್ದ ಆಯುಧ ಸಂಪತ್ತುಗಳು ಪುರಾತನ ಗ್ರಂಥಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಅನೇಕ ವಿಧವಾಗಿ ವಿವರಿಸಲ್ಪಟ್ಟಿವೆ. ದೇವರುಗಳ ಸ್ತೋತ್ರಗಳಲ್ಲಿಯೂ ದುಷ್ಟನಿಗ್ರಹಶಿಷ್ಟಸಂಹಾರಗಳಿಗಾಗಿ ಅವರು ಧರಿಸಿದ್ದ ಆಯುಧಗಳನ್ನು ವರ್ಣಿಸಿದೆ. ಪಂಚಾಯುಧ ಸ್ತೋತ್ರದಲ್ಲಿ "ಸಾವಿರ ಆರಕಾಲುಗಳಿಂದ ಶೋಭಿಸುತ್ತಾ ಕೋಟಿ ಸೂರ್ಯ ಸಮಾನವಾದ ಅಸುರಸಂಹಾರಿಯಾದ ಚಕ್ರವನ್ನು ಶರಣ ಹೊಂದುತ್ತೇನೆ; ವಿಷ್ಣುವಿನ ಬಾಯಿಯ ಗಾಳಿಯಿಂದ ಪೂರಿತವಾಗಿ ಅದರಿಂದ ಹೊರಡುವ ಧ್ವನಿಯಿಂದ ದಾನವರ ದರ್ಪವನ್ನು ಧ್ವಂಸ ಮಾಡುವ ಕೋಟಿ ಚಂದ್ರರ ಕಾಂತಿಯಿಂದ ಬೆಳಗುವ ಶಂಖವನ್ನು ಶರಣ ಹೊಂದುತ್ತೇನೆ; ಹಿರಣ್ಮಯವಾಗಿ ಮೇರು ಸಮಾನವಾದ ಶಕ್ತಿಯಿಂದಕೂಡಿ ದೈತ್ಯಕುಲನಾಶಕವಾಗಿ ದೇವರ ಎಡಗೈಯಲ್ಲಿ ಶೋಭಿಸುವ ಗದೆಯನ್ನು ಶರಣಹೊಂದುತ್ತೇನೆ; ಅಸುರರ ಬಲಿಷ್ಠವಾದ ಕತ್ತುಗಳನ್ನು ಛೇದಿಸಿ ರಕ್ತಮಯವಾಗಿರುವ ನಂದಕವೆಂಬ ದೇವರ ದೀಪ್ತವಾದ ಖಡ್ಗವನ್ನು ಶರಣಹೊಂದುತ್ತೇನೆ; ತನ್ನ ಟಂಕಾರವನ್ನು ಕೇಳಿ ದೇವತೆಗಳು ನಿರ್ಭಯರಾಗುವಂತೆ ಮಾಡಿ ಬಾಣಪ್ರವಾಹದಿಂದ ಅಸುರರನ್ನು ನಾಶಮಾಡುವ ಶಾರ್ಙ್ಗವನ್ನು ಶರಣ ಹೊಂದುತ್ತೇನೆ; ಎಂಬ ಈ ಸ್ತೋತ್ರವನ್ನು ಪ್ರತಿದಿನ ಪಠಿಸಿದರೆ ಸಮಸ್ತಗಳಾದ ದುಃಖಗಳೂ ಭಯಗಳೂ ನಿವಾರಿಸಲ್ಪಡುತ್ತವೆ", ಎಂದು ಹೇಳಿದೆ.

ಶಿವಾಗಮದಲ್ಲಿ ಪರಮೇಶ್ವರನ ವಜ್ರ ಶಕ್ತಿ ದಂಡ ಖಡ್ಗ ಪಾಶ ಅಂಕುಶ ಗದೆ ತ್ರಿಶೂಲ ಚಕ್ರ ಪದ್ಮ ಎಂಬ ದಶಾಯುಧಗಳನ್ನು ವರ್ಣಿಸಿದೆ. ನಾರಸಿಂಹರ ವರ್ಣನೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಶಕ್ತಿ, ಖಡ್ಗ, ಪಂಜು, ಅಂಕುಶ, ದಂತ, ಕುಂತ, ಕುಠಾರ, ಶಂಖ, ಚಕ್ರ, ಅಬ್ಜ, ಪರಶು, ಹಲ, ಮುಸಲ, ಗದೆ, ಗುರಾಣಿ, ತ್ರಿಶೂಲ ಎಂದು ೧೬ ಆಯುಧಗಳೊಡನೆ ಮೂರ್ತೀಕರಿಸಿದೆ.

ರಾಮಾಯಣದಲ್ಲಿ ವಿಶ್ವಾಮಿತ್ರರು ರಾಮಲಕ್ಷ್ಮಣರನ್ನು ಯಜ್ಞ ರಕ್ಷಣೆಗಾಗಿ ಕರೆದುಕೊಂಡು ಹೋಗುತ್ತಿರುವಾಗ ಮಾರ್ಗದಲ್ಲಿ ವಾಮನಾವತಾರದಲ್ಲಿ ದೇವರು ತಪಸ್ಸು ಮಾಡುತ್ತಿದ್ದ ಸಿದ್ಧಾಶ್ರಮದ ಸಮೀಪದಲ್ಲಿ ಅಸ್ತ್ರ ಮಂತ್ರಗಳನ್ನು ಅವರಿಗೆ ಉಪದೇಶಮಾಡಿದರೆಂದು ಹೇಳಿದೆ. ಅವು ಯಾವನೆಂದರೆ, ದಂಡಚಕ್ರ ಧರ್ಮಚಕ್ರ ಕಾಲಚಕ್ರ ವಿಷ್ಣುಚಕ್ರ ಶೂಲವರ ಬ್ರಹ್ಮಶೀರ್ಷ ಮೋದಕೀ ಶಿಖರೀ ಧರ್ಮಪಾಶ ವರುಣಪಾಶ ಪೈನಾಕಾಸ್ತ್ರ ವಾಯವ್ಯ ಶುಷ್ಕ ಆರ್ದ್ರ ಶಿಖರಾಸ್ತ್ರ ತ್ವಾಷ್ಟ್ರ ಹಯಶೀರ್ಷ ವಿದ್ಯಾಸ್ತ್ರ ಅವಿದ್ಯಾಸ್ತ್ರ ಗಂಧರ್ವಾಸ್ತ್ರ ನಂದನಾಸ್ತ್ರ ವರ್ಷಣ ಶೋಷಣ ಪ್ರಸ್ವಾಪನ ಪ್ರಶಮನ ಸಂತಾಪನ ವಿಲಾಪನ ಮಥನ ಮಾನವಾಸ್ತ್ರ ಸಾಮನ ತಾಮಸ ಸಂವರ್ತ ಮೌಸಲ ಸತ್ಯ ಸೌರ ಮಾಯಾಸ್ತ್ರ ತ್ವಾಷ್ಟ್ರ ಸಂಹಾರಾಸ್ತ್ರ ಸೌಮ್ಯಾಸ್ತ್ರ ಮಾನಸ ನಾಗಾಸ್ತ್ರ ಗಾರುಡಾಸ್ತ್ರ ಶೈಲಾಸ್ತ್ರ ಇಷೀಕಾಸ್ತ್ರ, ಈ ೪೪.

ಉಪಸಂಹಾರಾಸ್ತ್ರಗಳು ಸತ್ಯವಾ ಸತ್ಯಕೀರ್ತಿ ರಭಸ ಧೃಷ್ಟ ಪ್ರತಿಹಾರ ಅವಾಙ್ಮುಖ ಪರಾಙ್ಮುಖ ದೃಢನಾಭ ಅಲಕ್ಷ್ಯ ಲಕ್ಷ್ಯ ಅವಿಲ, ಸುನಾಭಕ, ದಶಾಕ್ಷ ಶತವಕ್ತ್ರ ಶತೋದರ ದಶಶೀರ್ಷ ಧರ್ಮನಾಭ ಮಹಾನಾಭ ದುಂದುನಾಭ ನಾಭಕ ಜ್ಯೋತಿಷ ವಿಮಲ ಸೈರಾಶ್ಯ ಕರ್ಷಣ ಯೋಗಂಧರ ಸನಿದ್ರ ದೈತ್ಯ ಪ್ರಮಥನ ಸಾರ್ವಿರ್ಮಾಲ ಧೃತಿಮಾಲೀ ವೃತ್ತಿಮ ರುಚಿರ ಪಿತೃಸೌಮನಸ ವಿಧೂತ ಮಕರ ಕರವೀರ ಧನರತಿ ಧಾನ್ಯ ಕಾಮರೂಪಕ ಜೃಂಭಕ ಅವರಣ ಮೋಹನ ಕಾಮರುಚಿ ವರುಣ ಸರ್ವದಮನ ಸಂಧಾನ ಸರ್ಪನಾಥಕ ಕಂಕಾಳಾಸ್ತ್ರ ಮೌಸಲಾಸ್ತ್ರ ಕಾಪಾಲಾಸ್ತ್ರ ಕಂಕಣ ಪೈಶಾಚಾಸ್ತ್ರ, ಎಂದು ೫೫.

ಶ್ರೀ ಕೃಷ್ಣಬಲರಾಮರ ಗುರುವಾದ ಸಾಂದೀಪನಿಯು ಅವರಿಗೆ ೩೩೮ ಆಯುಧ ವಿಶೇಷಗಳನ್ನು ವಿವರಿಸುತ್ತಾರೆ. ಆ ಕಾಲದಲ್ಲಿ ಅಷ್ಟು ವಿಧವಾದ ಆಯುಧಗಳು ಅಲ್ಲಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರಚಾರದಲ್ಲಿದ್ದವೆಂದು ತಿಳಿಯಬಹುದು.

ಆದರೆ ವೀರಾಗ್ರಣಿಗಳೆನ್ನಿಸಿದವರು ಕೆಲವರು ತಮಗೆ ಇಷ್ಟ ಬಂದ ಒಂದೆರಡು ಆಯುಧಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರವೀಣರಾಗಿ ಅದರಿಂದ ದುಷ್ಟರ ಅಥವಾ ಶತ್ರುಗಳ ನಿಗ್ರಹವನ್ನು ಮಾಡುತ್ತಿದ್ದರು. ವಿಷ್ಣುವು ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯವಾಗಿ ಚಕ್ರವನ್ನು ಉಪಯೋಗಿಸುವುದು. ಶ್ರೀ ಕೃಷ್ಣನು ರಾಜಸಭೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಶಿಶುಪಾಲನ ಶಿರಶ್ಛೇದನವನ್ನೂ ವಿಷ್ಣುವು ಗಜೇಂದ್ರಮೋಕ್ಷಣವನ್ನೂ ಚಕ್ರಾಯುಧದಿಂದ ಮಾಡಿದರು. ಈಶ್ವರನಿಗೆ ತ್ರಿಶೂಲವು ಮುಖ್ಯಾಸ್ತ್ರ. ಆದರೆ ತ್ರಿಪುರ ದಹನವನ್ನೂ ಕಾಮದಹನವನ್ನೂ ತನ್ನ ಮೂರನೆ ನೇತ್ರದ ಕ್ರೋಧಾಗ್ನಿಯಿಂದ ಮಾಡಿದನು. ಇಂದ್ರನಿಗೆ ವಜ್ರಾಯುಧ. ರಾಮಲಕ್ಷ್ಮಣರು ಧನುರ್ಧಾರಿಗಳು. ಬಲರಾಮನ ಆಯುಧವು ನೇಗಿಲು. ಪರಶುರಾಮನದು ಗಂಡುಕೊಡಲಿ. ಭೀಮದುರ್ಯೋಧನರಿಗೆ ಗದೆ. ಅಂಗದ ಆಂಜನೇಯರಿಗೆ ಮುಷ್ಟಿ. ರಾಮರು ಕಾಕಾಸುರನನ್ನು ಶಿಕ್ಷಿಸಲು ಒಂದು ದರ್ಭೆಯನ್ನು ಮಂತ್ರಿಸಿ ಬಿಟ್ಟರು. ಅದು ಅವನನ್ನು ಬೆನ್ನಟ್ಟಿಕೊಂಡು ಹೋಗಲು ಕಡೆಗೆ ಅವನು ರಾಮನನ್ನೇ ಶರಣಹೊಂದಿದನು. ವಿಶ್ವಾಮಿತ್ರರು ವಸಿಷ್ಠರ ಮೇಲೆ ನಂದಿನೀಧೇನುವಿಗಾಗಿ ತನ್ನ ಬಲಪ್ರಯೋಗವನ್ನು ಮಾಡಲು ಅವರು ಮಂತ್ರಿಸಿದ ಬ್ರಹ್ಮದಂಡದಿಂದಲೆ ವಿಶ್ವಾಮಿತ್ರರನ್ನು ಎದುರಿಸಿದರು.

ಆಯುಧವಿದ್ಯೆಯು ಧನುರ್ವೇದದಲ್ಲಿ ಹೇಳಿದೆ ಎಂದು ಶ್ರುತಿ. ಅದು ಉಪವೇದಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಒಂದು. ಈಗ ಅಲಭ್ಯ.

ಧನುರ್ವೇದದಲ್ಲಿ ಆಯುಧಗಳು ಮುಕ್ತ, ಅಮುಕ್ತ, ಮುಕ್ತಾಮುಕ್ತ, ಅಂದರೆ ಎಸೆಯುವದು, ಹಿಡಿದಿರುವದು, ಎಸೆಯುವದು ಹಿಡಿದಿರುವದು ಎರಡು ವಿಧವಾಗಿಯೂ ಉಪಯೋಗಿಸತಕ್ಕವು, ಎಂದು ಮೂರು ವಿಧವಾಗಿ ವಿಂಗಡಿಸಲ್ಪಟ್ಟಿವೆ. ಅಗ್ನಿಪುರಾಣದಲ್ಲಿ

ಯಂತ್ರಮುಕ್ತ, ಪಾಣಿಮುಕ್ತ, ಮುಕ್ತ–ಸಂಧಾರಿತ, ಅಮುಕ್ತ, ಬಾಹುಯುದ್ಧ, ಎಂದರೆ ಫಿರಂಗಿ ಮುಂತಾದ ಯಂತ್ರದಿಂದ ಎಸೆಯಲ್ಪಡುವವು, ಕೈಯಿಂದ ಎಸೆಯಲ್ಪಡುವುವು, ಎಸೆದು ಹಿಂದಕ್ಕೆ ಎಳೆದು ಕೊಳ್ಳುವವು, ಕೈಯಲ್ಲಿ ಹಿಡಿದೆ ಹೊಡೆಯುವವು, ಬಾಹುಯುದ್ಧ ಎಂದು ಐದು ವಿಧವಾಗಿ ವಿಂಗಡಿಸಿದೆ.

ಮುಕ್ತಾಯುಧಗಳು ಧನುಸ್ಸು ಇಷು ಭಿಂಡಿವಾಳ ಶಕ್ತಿ ದ್ರುಘಣ ಅಥವಾ ಕೊಡಲಿ, ತೋಮರ, ನಾಳಿಕಾ ಅಂದರೆ ಬಂದೂಕು, ಲಗುಡ, ಪಾಶ ಚಕ್ರ ದಂತಕಂಟಕ ಮುಸುಂಡಿ ಎಂದು ೧೨. ಮನುವು ಕೋಟೆಯಮೇಲಿರುವ ಒಬ್ಬ ಧನುರ್ಧಾರಿಯು ೧೦೦ ಶತ್ರುಗಳನ್ನು ತಡೆಯಬಲ್ಲನೆಂದೂ, ಒಂದು ನೂರು ಬಿಲ್ಲುಗಾರರು ೧೦೦೦ ಜನ ಶತ್ರುಗಳನ್ನು ತಡೆಯಬಲ್ಲರೆಂದೂ ಹೇಳಿದಾನೆ.

ಅಮುಕ್ತಾಯುಧಗಳು ೨೦. ಅವು ವಜ್ರ ಇಳೀ ಅಥವಾ ಬಾಕು, ಪರಶು ಗೋಶೀರ್ಷ ಅಸಿಧೇನು ಅಥವಾ ಇಟಲಿಯವರ ಸ್ಟಿಲೆಟೊ, ಲಘಿತ್ರ ಅಥವಾ ಆಸ್ಟ್ರೇಲಿಯದವರ ಬೂಮರಾಂಗ್, ಕುಂತ, ಸ್ಯೂಣ, ಪಿನಾಕ ಅಥವಾ ತ್ರಿಶೂಲ, ಗದೆ ಮುದ್ಗರ ಸೀರ ಮುಸಲ ಪಟ್ಟಿಶ, ವ್ಯಾಷ್ಟಿಕ ಅಥವಾ ಇಂಗ್ಲಿಷರ ಡ್ಯಾಗರ್, ಪರಿಘ ಮಯೂಖಿ ಮತ್ತು ಶತಘ್ನಿ.

ಮಂತ್ರಮುಕ್ತಗಳು ವಿಶ್ವಾಮಿತ್ರರು ಶ್ರೀರಾಮರಿಗೆ ಹೇಳಿದುವೆಂದು ಮೇಲೆ ತಿಳಿಸಿರುವುವು. ಮಂತ್ರಾಸ್ತ್ರಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಮಹಾಶ್ಲಾಘ್ಯವಾದುವು ವಿಷ್ಣುಚಕ್ರ, ವಜ್ರಾಸ್ತ್ರ, ಬ್ರಹ್ಮಾಸ್ತ್ರ, ಕಾಲಪಾಶ, ನಾರಾಯಣಾಸ್ತ್ರ ಮತ್ತು ಪಾಶುಪತಾಸ್ತ್ರ ಎಂಬ ಆರು.

ಮಂತ್ರಾಸ್ತ್ರಗಳು ಅತಿರಥ ಮಹಾರಥರಾದ ವೀರಾಗ್ರೇಸರರಿಗೆ ಸಾಧ್ಯವಾದುವು. ಯೋಧಸಾಮಾನ್ಯರಿಗೆ ಕೆಲವು ಮುಖ್ಯ ಶಸ್ತ್ರಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣವನ್ನು ಕೊಟ್ಟು ಸೈನ್ಯದ ತಂಡಗಳನ್ನು ಕಲ್ಪಿಸುತ್ತಿದ್ದರು, ಶತ್ರು ನಿಗ್ರಹದಲ್ಲಿ ಅಸೆಗಳೂ ಒಂದು ಪ್ರಶಸ್ತವಾದ ಸಲಕರಣೆಯಾಗಿದ್ದವು.

"ನಾಳಾಸ್ತ್ರಾಣಿ ಪುರಸ್ಕೃತ್ಯ ಲಘೂನಿಚ ಮಹಾಂತಿಚ।
ತತ್ಪೃಷ್ಠಗಾಂಶ್ಚ ಪಾದಾತಾನ್ ಗಜಾಶ್ವಾನ್ಪಾರ್ಶ್ವಯೋಸ್ಥಿತಾನ್॥
ಕೃತ್ವಾಯುದ್ಧಂ ಪ್ರಾರಭತೆ ಭಿನ್ನಾಮಾತ್ಯ ಬಲಾರಿಣಾ ॥"

ಅಂದರೆ, ಸಣ್ಣ ಮತ್ತು ದೊಡ್ಡ ಫಿರಂಗಿಗಳನ್ನು ಮುಂದೆ ಬಿಟ್ಟು ಕೊಂಡು, ಅದರ ಹಿಂದೆ ಪದಾತಿ ಸೈನ್ಯ, ಎರಡು ಪಕ್ಕಗಳಲ್ಲಿಯೂ ಗಜಾಶ್ವಗಳ ಸಮೂಹ, ಇವುಗಳೊಡನೆ ಹೊರಟು ಯುದ್ಧಮಾಡಬೇಕು, ಎಂದು ಶಾಸ್ತ್ರದಲ್ಲಿ ಸೂಚಿಸಿದೆ.

ಶಸ್ತ್ರಾಸ್ತ್ರಗಳಿಂದ ಧರ್ಮ ಯುದ್ಧವು ಕೈಗೂಡದೆ ಶತ್ರುಬಲವು ಪ್ರಬಲವಾಗಿ ಕೈಮೀರುತ್ತ ಬಂದರೆ ವಿಷಲಿಪ್ತವಾದ ಆಯುಧಗಳನ್ನು ಉಪಯೋಗಿಸಬೇಕಾಗಿದ್ದಿತು. ಅದಲ್ಲದೆ ಕಾದ ಎಣ್ಣೆ, ಭಗ್ನೆಂದು ಉರಿ ಏಳುವ ಎಣ್ಣೆ, ಹಾವುಗಳಿಂದ ಕೂಡಿದ ಮಡಕೆಗಳು, ಉರಿಯುವ ಹೊಟ್ಟು, ಹೊಗೆಯನ್ನು ಹರಡುವ ದೊಡ್ಡ ಪಟಾಸುಗಳು ಕಲ್ಲು ಬಂಡೆಗಳು ಮುಂತಾಗಿ ಎಲ್ಲಾ ವಿಧವಾದ ನಾಶಕರವಾದ ವಸ್ತುಗಳನ್ನೂ ಉಪಯೋಗಿಸುತ್ತಿದ್ದರು.

ಧನುರ್ವೇದದ ಆಧಾರದಮೇಲೆ ಬರೆದಿರುವ ವೈಶಂಪಾಯನನ "ನೀತಿಪ್ರಕಾಶಿಕಾ" ಎಂಬ ಗ್ರಂಥದಲ್ಲಿಯೂ ಮಹಾಭಾರತಕ್ಕಿಂತ ಪುರಾತನವಾದ "ಶುಕ್ರನೀತಿ" ಯಲ್ಲಿಯೂ ಸ್ವಾಚೀನಭಾರತೀಯರು ಬಂದೂಕು ಮತ್ತು ಫಿರಂಗಿಗಳನ್ನು ಯುದ್ಧದಲ್ಲಿ ಉಪಯೋಗಿಸುತ್ತಿದ್ದರೆಂದೂ, ಪ್ರತಿಬಂದು ಕೋಟೆಯಮೇಲೂ ಬಂದೂಕು ಫಿರಂಗಿಗಳನ್ನಿಟ್ಟು ನಗರಗಳನ್ನು ರಕ್ಷಿಸುತ್ತಿದ್ದರೆಂದೂ ಹೇಳಿದೆ. ಬಂದೂಕು ಮತ್ತು ಫಿರಂಗಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಗಳ ಮತ್ತು ಜೊಂಬುಗಳ ಕೊಳವೆಗಳನ್ನು ಉಪಯೋಗಿಸಿ ಅವುಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಕಬ್ಬಿಣ ಅಥವಾ ಸೀಸದ ಗೋಲಿಗಳನ್ನು ಇಟ್ಟು ಮದ್ದನ್ನು ಇಟ್ಟು ಅದಕ್ಕೆ ಬೆಂಕಿ ತಗಲಿಸಿ ಆಸ್ಫೋಟನೆಮಾಡಿ ಪ್ರಯೋಗಿಸುತ್ತಿದ್ದರೆಂದೂ ವಿವರಿಸಿದಾರೆ.

ಶುಕ್ರನೀತಿಯ ವಾಕ್ಯಗಳು ಹೀಗೆಂದು ಹೇಳುತ್ತವೆ:

"ಅಸ್ತ್ರಗಳು ಎರಡುವಿಧ ಎಂದು ತಿಳಿಯತಕ್ಕದ್ದು; ನಾಳಿಕ ಮತ್ತು ಮಾಂತ್ರಿಕ. ಮಾಂತ್ರಿಕಾಸ್ತ್ರಗಳು ಅಸಾಧ್ಯವಾದರೆ ನಾಳಿಕವನ್ನು ಧರಿಸಬೇಕು. ಅದರಿಂದ ಜಯವು ಲಭಿಸುತ್ತದೆ, ಲಘು ದೀರ್ಘ ಸಣ್ಣ ದಪ್ಪ ಎಂಬ ಕೊಳವೆಯ ಆಕಾರಭೇದದಿಂದ ಅದು ಹೆಚ್ಚು ಹೆಚ್ಚು ಶಕ್ತಿಯುಳ್ಳದ್ದಾಗಿ ಉಪಯೋಗವಾಗುತ್ತದೆ. ಕೊಳವೆಯು ೫ ಮಳ ಉದ್ದ. ಮೇಲುಗಡೆಯೂ ಪಕ್ಕಗಳಲ್ಲೂ ರಂಧ್ರಗಳಿರುತ್ತವೆ. ಮೂಲದಲ್ಲೂ ಅಗ್ರದಲ್ಲೂ ಗುರಿಗೆ ನೇರವಾಗಿ ಹೊಡೆಯುವದಕ್ಕೆ ತಕ್ಕಂತೆ ಒಂದೊಂದು ಎಳ್ಳಿನ ಕಾಳನ್ನು ಇಟ್ಟಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಮೂಲದಲ್ಲಿರುವ ಟ್ರಿಗ್ಗರ್ ಅಥವಾ ಕುದರೆಯು ತಗಲಿದೊಡನೆ ಆಸ್ಫೋಟಿಸುವಂತೆ ಮಣಿಶಿಲೆ ಅಥವಾ ಕೆಂಪು ಆರ್ಸನಿಕ್ ಚೂರ್ಣವನ್ನು ಇಟ್ಟಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಆ ಆಸ್ಫೋಟನೆಯಿಂದ ಗೋಲಿಯು ಹೊರಟು ಲಕ್ಷ್ಯವನ್ನು ಭೇದಿಸುತ್ತದೆ."

ಕೈಯಲ್ಲಿ ಹಿಡಿಯುವ ಬಂದೂಕುಗಳು ಬಿದಿರುನಾಳದವುಗಳು. ಫಿರಂಗಿಗಳ ನಾಳಗಳು ಕಬ್ಬಿಣ ಅಥವಾ ಸೀಸದಲ್ಲಿ ಎರಕಹುಯಿದ ೬ ಇಂಚು ೯ ಇಂಚು ಮುಂತಾದ ರಂಧ್ರಗಳ ನೆಲ್ಲಿಗಳು. ಈ ದೊಡ್ಡ ಫಿರಂಗಿಗಳನ್ನು ಎರಡು ಚಕ್ರಗಳಮಧ್ಯೆ ದೂಲದಮೇಲೆ ಸ್ಥಾಪಿಸಿ ಎತ್ತುಗಳಿಂದ ಎಳೆಸುತ್ತಿದ್ದರು. ಪಶ್ಚಿಮ ಏಷ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಮೊಗಲ್ ಅಧಿಪತ್ಯವನ್ನು ಸ್ಥಾಪಿಸಿದ ಹುಲಾಕುಖಾನ್ ೧೩೫೮ ರಲ್ಲಿ ಡೆಲ್ಲಿ ಚಕ್ರವರ್ತಿಯಬಳಿಗೆ ಒಬ್ಬ ರಾಯಭಾರಿಯನ್ನು ಕಳುಹಿಸಲು ಅವನನ್ನು ಎದುರುಗೊಳ್ಳಲು ಡೆಲ್ಲಿಯವಜೀರನು ಸಕಲಮರ್ಯಾದೆಗಳೊಡನೆ ಬಂದನೆಂದೂ ಅದರಲ್ಲಿ ೩೦೦೦ ತೋಪಿನಗಾಡಿಗಳಿದ್ದವೆಂದೂ ಫೆರಿಷ್ಟಾ ಎಂಬ ಪ್ರಸಿದ್ಧ ಚರಿತ್ರಕಾರನು ಬರೆದಿದಾನೆ ಫಿಲೊಸ್ಟ್ರಾಟಸ್ ಎಂಬ ರೋಮ್ ಚರಿತ್ರಕಾರನು ೨೨೦೦ ವರ್ಷಗಳ ಹಿಂದೆ ಅಲೆಕ್ಸಾಂಡರನು ಭಾರತವನ್ನು ಆಕ್ರಮಿಸದೆ ಹಿಂತಿರುಗಿದ್ದಕ್ಕೆ ಕಾರಣವನ್ನು ಹೀಗೆ ವಿವರಿಸಿದಾನೆ: "Their cities he never could have taken, though he had led a thousand as brave as Achilles, or three thousand such as Ajax, to the assault; for they come not out to the field to fight those who attack them, but these holy men, beloved by the gods, overthrew their enemies with tempests and thunderbolts shot from their walls!" "ಅಚಿಲ್ಸ್, ಅಜಾಕ್ಸರಂತಹ ಸಾವಿರಾರು ವೀರಾದಿವೀರರನ್ನು ಕರೆದುಕೊಂಡು ಹೋಗಿದ್ದರೂ ಕೂಡ ಅಲೆಕ್ಸಾಂಡರನಿಗೆ ಅವರ ಊರುಗಳನ್ನು ವಶಪಡಿಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳಲು ಸಾಧ್ಯವಾಗುತ್ತಿರಲಿಲ್ಲ. ಯಾಕೆಂದರೆ ಆ ಪುಣ್ಯಾತ್ಮರು ಎದುರಿಗೆ ಬಂದು ಯುದ್ಧಮಾಡುವದಿಲ್ಲ. ಕೋಟೆಗಳ ಮೇಲಿನಿಂದ ಶಿಡಿಲು ಗುಡುಗು

ಗಳನ್ನು ಸುರಿದು ಶತ್ರುಗಳನ್ನು ನಾಶಮಾಡುತ್ತಾರೆ!" ಎಂದು ಹೇಳಿದಾನೆ.

ಶುಕ್ರನೀತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಮದ್ದನ್ನು ಮಾಡು ವಿಧಾನವನ್ನೂ ಹೇಳಿದಾರೆ:

"ಸುವರ್ಚಿಲವಣಾತ್ ಪಂಚ ಪಲಾನಿ ಗಂಧಕಾತ್ ಪಲಂ।
ಅಂತರ್ಧೂಮವಿಪಕ್ವಾರ್ಕ ಸ್ನುಹ್ಯಾದ್ಯಂಗಾರತಃ ಪಲಂ ॥
ಶುದ್ಧಾತ್ ಸಂಗ್ರಾಹ್ಯಸಂಚೂರ್ಣ್ಯ ಸಂಮೀಲ್ಯ ಪ್ರಪುಟೇದ್ರಸೈಃ।
ಸ್ನುಹ್ಯರ್ಕಾಣಾಂ ರಸೋನಸ್ಯ ಶೋಷಯೇತ್ ಆತಪೇನಚ ॥
ಪಿಷ್ಟ್ವಾಶರ್ಕರವಚ್ಚೂರ್ಣಿತತ್ ಅಗ್ನಿಚೂರ್ಣಂ ಭವೇತ್ ಖಲು ॥

ಐದುಭಾಗ ಪೆಟ್ಲುವ್ಪು ೧ ಭಾಗ ಗಂಧಕ ೧ ಭಾಗ ಹೊಗೆಯು ಹೊರಟು ಹೋಗದಂತೆ ಅರ್ಕವೃಕ್ಷ (ಎಕ್ಕದಗಿಡ) ಮುಂತಾದಗಿಡ ಗಳನ್ನು ಸುಟ್ಟು ತೆಗೆದ ಇದ್ದಲುಪುಡಿ, ಇವುಗಳ ಪುಡಿಯನ್ನು ಎಕ್ಕದ ಹಾಲು ಮಂಡಗಳ್ಳರಸ ಬೆಳ್ಳುಳ್ಳಿರಸ ಇವುಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಕಲೆಸಿ ಒಣಗಿಸಿ ಸಕ್ಕರೆಯಂತೆ ಪುಡಿಮಾಡುವದು. ಇದೇ ನಾಳಿಕಾಸ್ತ್ರಗಳಿಗೆ, ಅಂದರೆ ಬಂದೂಕುಗಳಿಗೂ ತೋಪುಗಳಿಗೂ, ಉಪಯೋಗಿಸುವ ಮದ್ದು. ತೋಪಿನ ನಾಳದೊಳಗೆ ಸಣ್ಣಸಣ್ಣ ಗುಂಡುಗಳು ಜಾಕುಗಳು ಇವುಗ ಳನ್ನು ತುಂಬಿದ ದೊಡ್ಡ ಗುಂಡನ್ನು ಮಡಗಿ ಈ ಮದ್ದಿಗೆ ಬೆಂಕಿತಗಲಿ ಸಿದರೆ ಅದರ ಆಸ್ಫೋಟನೆಯಿಂದ ಆ ಗುಂಡು ಶತ್ರುಸೈನ್ಯದ ಮೇಲೆ ಒಡೆದು ಹರಡಿ ನಾಶಮಾಡುತ್ತದೆ."

ಇಂಡಿಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಅನೇಕಸಾವಿರ ವರ್ಷಗಳ ಹಿಂದೆಯೆ ತಿಳಿದಿದ್ದ ಈ ವಿಷಯವು ಯೂರೋಪಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಕಂಡುಹಿಡಿಯಲ್ಪಟ್ಟದ್ದು ಈಚೆಗೆ ೧೩೦೦ ರಲ್ಲಿ. ಆ ವರ್ಷ ಷ್ವಾರ್ಜ್ ಎಂಬ ಫ್ರಾನ್ಸಿಸ್ಕ್ ಪಾದರಿಯು ಜರ್ಮನಿಯ ಫ್ರೀಬರ್ಗಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಸಿಡಿಮದ್ದನ್ನು ಕಂಡುಹಿಡಿದನೆಂದು ಅಲ್ಲಿನ ಜನರು ಅವನಿಗೆ ಒಂದು ಸ್ಮಾಚುವನ್ನು ಕಟ್ಟಿ ಗೌರವಿಸಿದಾರೆ. ಅವ ನಿಗೆ ೬೦ ವರ್ಷ ಹಿಂದೆ ರೋಗರ್ ಬೇಕ್ ಎಂಬ ಮತ್ತೊಬ್ಬ ಪಾದರಿ ರಸಾಯನಿಕನು ಪೆಟ್ಲುಪ್ಪಿನಿಂದ ಸಿಡಿಮದ್ದನ್ನು ತಯಾರುಮಾಡಿ ಯುದ್ಧಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಉಪಯೋಗಿಸಿ ಶತ್ರುನಿಗ್ರಹ ಮಾಡಬಹುದೆಂದು ತಿಳಿಸಿದಾನೆ.

೧೮ ನೇ ಶತಮಾನದಲ್ಲಿದ್ದ ಲಾಂಗ್ಲಿಸ್ ಮತ್ತು ಬೆಕ್ಮ್ ಎಂಬ ಇಬ್ಬರು ಚರಿತ್ರಕಾರರು, "I am more than ever inclined to accede to the opinion of those who believe that gun-powder was invented in India, and brought by the Saracens through Africa to the Europeans." "ಸಿಡಿಮದ್ದು ಇಂಡಿಯದಲ್ಲಿ ನೊದಲು ಕಂಡುಹಿಡಿಯಲ್ಪಟ್ಟು ಸ್ಯಾರಸೀರಿಂದ ಆಫ್ರಿಕದ ಮಾರ್ಗ ವಾಗಿ ಯೂರೋಪಿನ ಜನರ ಗೋಚರಕ್ಕೆ ಕರಲ್ಪಟ್ಟಿತೆಂಬ ಅಭಿಪ್ರಾಯ ವನ್ನು ನಾನು ಅನುಮೋದಿಸುತ್ತೇನೆ" ಎಂದು ಹೇಳಿದಾರೆ.

ರಾಜನೀತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರತಿಒಬ್ಬ ರಾಜನೂ ಇಷ್ಟು ಕುದುರೆ ಇಷ್ಟು ಆನೆ ಇಷ್ಟು ಪದಾತಿಗಳು ಇಷ್ಟು ಫಿರಂಗಿಗಳು— "ಬೃಹನ್ನಾಳಿಕಗಳು"— ಇವನ್ನು ಇಟ್ಟಿರಬೇಕೆಂದು ಸೂಚಿಸಿದೆ.

ಆದರೆ ಅದೆಲ್ಲಾ ಮರೆತುಹೋಗಿ ಈಚೆಗೆ ಯೂರೋಪಿಯನರೇ ಮದ್ದು ಫಿರಂಗಿಗಳನ್ನು ಮೊದಲು ಇಂಡಿಯಕ್ಕೆ ತಂದರು ಎನ್ನುವ ಭಾವನೆಯು ಬರುವದಕ್ಕೆ ಭಾರತೀಯರು ಕಾಲಗತಿಯಂದ ಆತ್ಮ ಗೌರವವನ್ನು ಮರೆತು ಪರಾಧೀನ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಸಿಕ್ಕಿಬಿದ್ದದ್ದೇ ಕಾರಣವೆಂದು ಹೇಳಬೇಕು. ಈಗ ಅಟಂಬಾಂಬಿನ ಉಪಯೋಗವನ್ನು ಕೆಲವರು ವಿರೋಧಿಸುವಂತೆ ಹಿಂದೆಯೂ ಮನುಧರ್ಮಶಾಸ್ತ್ರದಲ್ಲಿ ಘೋರಿಯು ನೋಸಕರವಾದ ಯಂತ್ರಗಳಿಂದಲೂ ವಿಷಲಿಪ್ತವಾದ ಆಯುಧ ಗಳಿಂದಲೂ ಫಿರಂಗಿ ತುಪಾಕಿ ಮುಂತಾದ ಆಗ್ನೇಯಾಸ್ತ್ರಗಳಿಂದಲೂ ಯುದ್ಧಮಾಡಕೂಡದೆಂದು ನಿರೋಧಿಸಿದೆ. ಅದರಂತೆ ದೇಶದ ತೇಜ ಸ್ಸಿಗೆ ಕಾರಣವಾಗಿದ್ದ ಅನೇಕ ಶಸ್ತ್ರಾಸ್ತ್ರಗಳು ಸ್ವಪ್ನಪ್ರಾಯವಾಗಿ ಈಗ ನಾವು ಪುನಃ ಓನಾಮವನ್ನು ಆರಂಭಿಸಬೇಕಾಗಿದೆ!

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APPRECIATING CHILDREN

The older I grow, the more I appreciate children. Now, at my 80th birthday, I salute them again. Children are the most wholesome part of the race, the sweetest, for they are freshest from the hand of God. Whimsical, ingenious, mischievous, they fill the world with joy and good humour. We adults live a life of apprehension as to what they will think of us; a life of defence against their terrifying energy; a life of hard work to live up to their great expectations. We put them to bed with a sense of relief—and greet them in the morning with delight and anticipation. We envy them the freshness of adventure and the discovery of life. In all these ways, children add to the wonder of being alive. In all these ways, they help to keep us young.

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Dum Dum, Calcutta-28.

HISTORY OF MYSORE
AND THE
YADAVA DYNASTY

BY

G. R. JOSYER, M.A. HONS., F.R.E.S.

AUTHOR

"Sociology," "Politics, Philosophy, and Phantasy," Etc.

"By far the greater part of the work is concerned with the history of the present ruling house of Mysore from its traditional beginning in 1399 till the year 1950 when the present Maharaja was installed as *Rajapramukh* of the newly-created Mysore State of the Indian Union. The dynasty, as is well-known, passed through a series of singular vicissitudes through the period of its early struggles, its supersession by Hyder Ali and Tippu Sultan and the assumption of administration of the State by the East India Company from 1831, to 1867. Since then, thanks to a succession of able rulers and administrators and their Dewans, the State has made phenomenal advance in educational, economic and (latterly) constitutional development. Of this long period the author gives a readable and valuable account in course of which he does adequate justice to the memory of two of Mysore's able, but unfortunate sovereigns, *viz.*, Maharani Lakshammanni and Maharaja Mummadi Krishnaraja Wodayar. The value of the book would have been enhanced by the addition of a bibliography and a map. Paper, print and the general get up are excellent."

Modern Review, Calcutta.

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"**Exceedingly valuable and interesting book.**" Professor, K. N. Venkatasubba Sastry, M.A., Ph.D, Simla.

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"It is artistic like a Raphael portrait."

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"A work of international interest."

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G. R. JOSYER, M.A. HONS., F.R.E.S.

MEMBER, ROYAL SOCIETY OF LITERATURE, GT. BRN., HON; MEMBER AND MEDALIST,
INSTITUT HISTORIQUE ET HERALDIQUE DE FRANCE; FELLOW, MYSORE UNIVERSITY 1929-30.
EDITOR: YAJURVEDA II VOLS, & RIGVEDA PADA; EDITOR "RATIONALIST.

"Looking at one page I thought it must be a man of 70 to possess all that wisdom; looking at another I told myself that virile vigour of expression shows him to be a man at the prime of life; and looking at still another I thought that only a boy of twenty-one could be so absolutely sure about anything! Which is right? Why don't authors put their pictures in their books so that one might turn to the pages when puzzled?"

Rs. 5—0—0 net

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THE RATIONALIST

A Weekly

for the intelligent man, devoted to a rationalistic survey of all matters of Public interest, in the economic, commercial, and literary fields.

Proprietor & Editor : G. R. JOSYER, M.A., F.R.E.S.

VOL XV No. 31] Monday 2—5—1955 [PRICE 0—1—6.

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PLANNING IN CHINA

Food and industrial production in Communist China "lag far behind our country's present needs," Radio Peiping says, and adds that it will require "possibly 50 years to build China into a powerful socialist country.

The broadcast commenting on the recent national Communist Party conference which discussed the first Five-Year Plan (1953-57), was principally concerned with explaining away the plan's failure to produce sufficient food and industrial products during the first two years of its operation.

Failure of the plan is believed by some observers to be linked with the conference's highly publicised purge of Kao Kang, whose suicide was announced by Radio Peiping. Kao has been missing from party functions, and has not been mentioned in the party press for more than a year. He held the position of chairman of the State Planning Commission during 1952 and early 1953 when the Communist Party was promising to make China self-sufficient practically overnight.

Excuses for production failures offered by Radio Peiping included the party's lack of experience in drawing up long-term construction plans, and the drain on the Peiping regime caused by the Korean war.

Although China has made little progress in development of heavy industry, emphasis on its development was defended in the broadcast on the ground that it is "a key factor in extricating our agriculture, transport and other fields from their backwardness."

The broadcast said:

"It is true that our agriculture is backward, that the supply of food and industrial crops lag behind our country's present needs. Rail and other transport are also inadequate and need expansion. But, it is not easy to build a socialist state. It probably requires three five year plans to build a socialist society, and to build a powerful, highly industrialised socialist country requires decades of arduous effort—possibly 50 years, or the whole second half of this century."

Observers who believe that Kao might be a scapegoat for party failures point to the fact that he stood for rapid Sovietisation of industry and agriculture, and to the delay in calling the party conference which purged him.

These observers also point to the resistance of Chinese peasants to collectivisation and to the serious position the party may find itself in if the present food shortage becomes more acute.

Meanwhile, a broadcast last week over Radio Peiping's Sinkiang Regional Service disclosed the cessation of further moves to organise agricultural producer co-operatives (the second step collectivisation) until "after the cultivation and harvesting season."

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Dum Dum, Calcutta-28.

A QUEER DEAL

A Correspondent writes:

Another Mattedoddi is going to be enacted by the irrepressible hero of that unsavoury incident, this time in a village about ten miles from Channapatna, known as Garkahalli.

The Mysore Palace owned about 55 acres of wet land in this village which were being cultivated by the villagers as tenants of the Palace from time immemorial. The lands were sought to be disposed of by public sale through the local Amildar. The tenants, most of whom are poor and leading a hand-to-mouth existence and entirely dependent on their tenancy right over these lands, were promised a fair deal in enabling them to purchase their respective holdings. On this promise, two or three of them seem to have been induced to release their tenancy rights.

What in effect was eventually done was neither the holdings were sold to the ryots nor was the public sale openly conducted. The whole thing seems to have been rushed through within half an hour, no chance being given to the ryots to take part in the sale.

Subsequently, it was learnt that the lands were purchased in absentia by Mrs. Nanjappa, sister-in-law of Mr. Hanumanthaiya, obviously benami, for her husband. The sale deed seems to have been got up and registered in unseemly and suspicious haste.

The transaction is neither profitable to His Highness the Maharaja nor just to the tenants. The ryots are naturally staggered by this development and indifference to the sanctity of solemn promises. Relying on the inducements said to have been offered, many of these ryots seem to have sold their belongings, including their little stock of grains and live-stock for raising money for the purchase of their holdings.

The conduct of the officers responsible for this kind of dealing has aroused much indignation and extreme discontent in the village and surrounding areas, and the situation is bound to flare up into another ugly Mattedoddi if the matter is not handled with vision and foresight and the wrong done to the ryots is not redressed.

THE CRACKED CUP

In New York, W. Somerset Maugham used to stay at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel. One day I asked him about the only thing which seemed out of place in his sitting room—an old cracked cup on top of a chest of drawers. Maugham smiled: "It serves to remind me that the best things in life are the simplest—and the least appreciated, because we take them for granted."

He told me the cracked cup's history. In 1840, when France fell, the several hundred English citizens living in the South of France were evacuated in two small cargo vessels. They were forced to take a long zigzag route to dodge enemy submarines. Each ship was so crowded that there was hardly a free inch of space, and the blazing summer sun turned the decks into a furnace.

The big moment of each day came when the scanty supplies were rationed out. Grimy, red-eyed, hungry and, above all, thirsty, the passengers would line up for their share.

"That," he finished, pointing to the old cup, "was what held my daily allowance of water. Whenever I feel myself getting a bit stuffy and inclined to take the comfortable places I stay in and the good food I eat for granted, I fill up my cup at the tap and drink it—slowly! Brings me to earth again in quite a hurry!"

X.

The Rationalist

THE RESERVE BANK

Mr. A. C. Guha, Minister for Revenue and Defence expenditure, moving in the Lok Sabha that the Reserve Bank of India (amendment) Bill be taken into consideration, said the Bill sought to empower the Bank to play its due role in the reorganisation of the co-operative structure and in enlarging and facilitating the supply of rural credit through it.

The Bill, he added, provided for the setting up of a National Agricultural Credit (long term operations) Fund which would be applied exclusively for the making of loans and advances to State Governments for subscribing to the share capital of Co-operative Credit Societies, for the making of medium-term loans to State Co-operative Banks for agricultural purposes, and for the making of long term loans and advances to Central Land Mortgage Banks.

It was also provided that a second fund called national Agricultural Credit (Stabilisation) Fund should be set up by the Reserve Bank, the amount therefrom being applied exclusively for the making of medium term loans and advances to state co-operative banks.

The Minister stated that the Rural Credit Survey Committee said that the long-term Fund should be started with Rs. 5 crores. The Central Government and the Reserve Bank had agreed to increase the initial amount from Rs. 3 crores to Rs. 10 crores. There would also be an annual recurring grant of not less than Rs. 5 crores by the Reserve Bank. The Reserve Bank would give Rs. 1 crore to the Stabilisation Fund. These two amounts were the minimum which the Reserve Bank would contribute. If there was any necessity the Reserve Bank would increase the funds. But at present Government felt that these two amounts would meet the requirements.

AVIATION STATISTICS

Mr. Carl Ljungberg, Secretary-General of the International Civil Aviation Organisation, said lately that he was very much impressed with the development of civil aviation in India.

The year 1954, said Mr. Ljungberg, showed 11 per cent increase in the scheduled air traffic of the world. In 1954 scheduled airlines of the world, both internal and international, carried 57,800,000 passengers compared to 52,000,000 in 1953.

Asked about accidents, the I.C.A.O. Secretary-General said, there were 26 accidents in the world during scheduled flights in 1954, which was three less than in 1953. The number of passengers killed were 422 compared to 385 in 1953. Though the number of fatalities were more last year, the ratio, was, however, only 0 82 fatalities per 100 million passenger kilometres, compared to 0·84 fatalities per 100 million passenger kilometres in 1953. The fatality ratio for 1954 was the best figure so far achieved, he said.

There were only two companies in the world, he added, which had no accidents during about 25 years of operation. Mr. Ljungberg refused to mention the names of the companies.

On earnings of airlines, Mr. Ljungberg said, the total earnings of all air companies totalled over 2,400 million dollars, showing a surplus of 75 million dollars over working costs. United States airlines made a profit of about 100 million dollars. Airlines in some other countries were just even, without loss or gain, while others suffered losses.

SRIKANTESWARA BANK. LTD. NANJANGUD.

Profit and Loss Account for the year ended 31st December 1954.

FORM B

EXPENDITURE	Rs.	A.	P.	INCOME (less provisions made during the year for bad and doubtful debts and other usual or necessary provisions.)	Rs.	A.	P.
1 Interest paid on deposits, borrowings, etc.	1734	15	4	1 Interest and Discount	12359	6	1
2 Salaries, Allowances & Prov. Fund (showing separately salaries & allowances to Managing Director, Manager or Chief Executive Officer Rs. (1023-0-0)	3137	8	0	2 Commission, Exchange, and Brokerage	1471	9	3
3 Directors' and local Committee Members' fee and allowances	416	0	0	3 Rents	165	0	0
4 Rent, Taxes, Insurance, Lighting	239	8	6	4 Net profit on sale of investments, gold and silver, land, premises & other assets (not credited A/c.)	50	0	0
5 Law Charges		Nil		5 Net profit on re-valuation of investments, gold & silver, land, premises and other assets (not credited to Reserves or any particular Fund or Account.)		Nil	
6 Postage, Telegraphs, Stamps and D. D. Commission	617	9	9	6 Income from non-banking assets, and profit from sale of or dealing with such assets		Nil	
7 Auditor's Fees	170	0	0	7 Other receipts (interest on investments)	855	0	0
8 Depreciation on and repairs to the Banking Company's property	273	13	3	8 Loss (if any)		Nil	
9 Stationery, Printing, Advt. etc.	466	10	9				
10 Loss from sale of or dealing with non-banking assets		Nil					
11 Other Expenditure	648	12	6				
12 Balance of Profit	7196	1	3				
	14900	15	4	Total Rs.	14900	15	4

DIRECTORS :

1. K. Venkatasubban.
2. S. Venugopalachar.
3. R. Jayaramachar.
4. N. K. Chandrasekhara Sastry.

R. Raghavendrachar,
Agent.

V. K. Narayana Iyengar,
Legal Adviser.

Report of the Auditor to the Shareholders of the Srikanteswara Bank, Ltd.,

I have audited the Balance Sheet of the Srikanteswara Bank, Ltd for the year ended 31st December 1954, and also the Profit and Loss Account for the year ended that date and report that :—

(a) I have obtained all the information and explanations I have required.

(b) Such information and explanations have been found to be satisfactory.

(c) The transactions of the company which have come to my notice have been in my opinion, within the powers of the Bank.

(d) In my opinion, the Profit and Loss account shows a true balance of profit for the year ended 31.12.54.

(e) The Balnce Sheet and Profit and Loss account are drawn up in conformity with the law; and the Balance Sheet exhibits a true and correct view of the state of affairs of the Bank according to the best of my information and the explanations given to me and as shown by the books of the Bank;

(f) The accounts of the Bank have been kept as per section 130 of the regulation XVIII of the act 1938 (Mysore Companies Act.)

Nanjangud,
29—1—1955.

(Sd) M. N. Singalachar, L. COM.,
Restricted State Auditor.

SRIKANTESWARA BANK

BALANCE SHEET AS

FORM A

CAPITAL AND LIABILITIES	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
1. **Capital**—(a)		
Authorised Capital : 1400 shares of Rs. 50 each	70000 0 0	
Issued Capital : 985 shares at Rs. 50 each	49250 0 0	
Subscribed Capital 985 shares of Rs. 50 each	49250 0 0	
Amount called up at Rs. 50 per share	87 8 0	
Less calls unpaid	Nil	
Add forfeited shares		49162 8 0
2. **Reserve fund and other Reserves**	19715 0 0	
Statutory Reserve	528 7 3	
Dividend Equalisation Fund		20243 7 3
3. **Deposits and other Accounts**—	31928 0 0	
Fixed Deposits	18149 6 2	
Savings Bank Deposits	38021 2 7	
Current Accounts, Contingency	1750 4 0	
Accounts etc. Staff Provident Fund		89848 12 9
4. **Borrowings from other Banking Companies, Agents etc.**—	Nil	
(i) In India	Nil	
(ii) Outside India		
Particulars—	Nil	
(i) Secured (Stating the nature of security)	Nil	
(ii) Unsecured		1585 2 0
5. **Bills Payable.**		
6. **Bills for collections being bills receivable as per contra**—	5391 13 6	
(i) Payable in India	Nil	
(ii) Payable outside India		5391 13 6
7. **Other Liabilities.**	777 11 0	
(i) Liability suspense	941 14 0	
(ii) Interest on F.D. due, but not paid	2205 12 8	
(iii) Reserve for Income tax	567 6 0	
(iv) Arrears of dividend		4492 11 8
8. **Acceptances, endorsements and other obligations as per contra.**	Nil	
9. **Profit and loss Account.**	Nil	
Profit as per last Balance Sheet		
Add profit for the year ended 31-12-54	7196 1 3	
before providing for Taxation	1102 8 0	
Less appropriation for interim dividend		6093 9 3
10. **Contingent Liabilities**—(d)		
Total Rs.		176818 0 5

DIRECTORS :

1. K. Venkatasubban.
2. S. Venugopalachar.
3. R. Jayaramachar.
4. N. K. Chandrasekhara Sastry.

LTD., NANJANGUD.
ON 31 December 1954.

PROPERTY AND ASSETS	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
1. **Cash**—		
In hand and with Reserve Bank and Imperial Bank including Agent of Reserve Bank (foreign currency notes.)		30009 11 0
2. **Balances with other Banks** (showing whether on Deposit or Current Account)		
(i) In India. (Current Account)	5857 9 7	
(ii) Outside India.	Nil	5857 9 7
3. **Money at Call and Short Notice**		Nil
4. **Investments** (Stating mode of valuation eg. cost or market value: (f)—at cost.		
i) Securities of the Central and States Governments and other Trustee Securities, including Treasury Bills of the Central and State Treasury 5, 10 and 12 years Savings Certificates at cost	11736 9 0	
ii) Shares (classifying into preference, ordinary deferred and other classes of shares and showing separately shares fully paid up and partly paid up	Nil	
iii) Debentures or Bonds	Nil	
iv) Other investments to be classified under proper heads (Nanjangud Treasury S. B. a/c)	1108 14 10	
v) Gold	Nil	12845 7 10
5. **Advances (other than Bad and Doubtful Debts for which provision has been made to the satisfaction fo the Auditors.**		
I. Loans, Cash Credits, Overdrafts, etc:		
(i) Payable In India	109874 7 0	
(ii) Payable Outside India.	Nil	109874 7 0
II. Bills Discounted and Purchased: (Excluding Treasury Bills of the Central & State Governments.)		
(i) In India	Nil	
(ii) Outside India	Nil	
Particulars of Advances:		
(i) Debts considered good in respect of which the Banking Company is fully secured	52148 4 0	
(ii) Debts considered good for which the Banking Company holds no other security than the Debtors' personal security.	14254 10 6	
(iii) Debts considered good secured by the personal liabilities of one or more parties in addition to the personal security of the Debtors.	43471 8 6	
(iv) Debts considered doubtful or bad, not provided for	Nil	
(v) Debts due by Directors or Officers of the Banking Company or any of them either severally or jointly with any other persons.	3465 0 0	
(vi) Debts due by companies or firms in which the Directors of the Banking Company are interested as directors, partners or managing agents or, in the case of private companies, as members.	Nil	
Carried over Rs.		164587 3 5

SRIKANTESWARA BANK, LTD. NANJANGUD.

PROPERTY AND ASSETS (Contd.)		
Brought forward Rs.		164587 3 5
(vii) Maximum total amount of advances, including temporary advances made at any time during the year to Directors or Managers or Officers of the Banking Company or any of them either severally or jointly with any other persons.	7791 12 9	
(viii) Maximum total amount of advances, including temporary advances, granted during the year to the companies or firms in which the Directors of the Banking Company are interested as directors, partners or managing agents or, in the case of private companies, as members.	Nil	
(ix) Due from Banking Companies (fully secured)	Nil	
6. Bills receivable being Bills for collection as per contra—	5391 13 6	
(i) Payable in India	Nil	5391 13 6
(ii) Payable outside India.		Nil
7. Constituents' Liabilities for Acceptances, Endorsements and other obligations as per contra		
8. Premises less depreciation (g) at cost as at 31 Dec. 53	6761 6 6	
Additions during the year	Nil	
	6761 6 6	
Less depreciation to date	1357 12 0	5403 10 6
9. Furniture and fixture less depreciation (g) at cost as at 31-12-53	2060 14 9	
Additions during the year	105 8 0	
	2166 6 9	
Less deduction during the year	50 0 0	
	2116 6 9	
Less depreciation to date	805 14 0	1310 8 9
10. Other Assets (including Silver)		
Stock of paper and stationery etc.		74 12 3
11. Non-Banking Assets—		
Acquired in satisfaction of claims.		50 0 0
(stating mode of valuation) (i) at cost.		Nil
12. Profit and Loss.		
Total Rs.		176818 0 5

M. N. Singalachar, L. COM.,
Restricted State Auditor.
29—1—1955

R. Raghavendrachar,
Agent.

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THE RATIONALIST

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Proprietor & Editor : G. R. JOSYER, M.A., F.R.E.S.

VOL XV No. 32] Monday 9—5—1955 [PRICE 0—1—6.

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MYSORE

PLANNING FIENDS

Democracy in India is threatened by a new danger. Economic planning, which the Planning Commission has visualized as a great experiment in democracy and which had been hailed as such in many parts of the world, may now take a new direction which must necessarily mean the ultimate destruction of democratic ways of living in this country. While the communist defeat in the Andhra elections has ruled out a rejection of the democratic postulates of economic planning through a change in the Government at least in the immediate future, it appears that this may take place through the acceptance of "Physical Planning" by ruling circles in the country.

The high-priest of "physical planning," which thus threatens to enter through the back door, is Prof. P. C. Mahalonobis, Director of the Indian statistical Institute, Calcutta, who is also Statistical Advisor to the Cabinet and wields great personal influence with Pandit Nehru. In recent years, this statistician has built up a large staff, including some foreign experts, at his institute in calcutta, mainly through funds made available by the Government of India. The list of the foreign experts at the Institute is revealing. It includes two leading Soviet economists with the Gosplan and Prof. Oscar Lange of the Polish Planning Organisation. From countries outside the Iron Curtain, there are Prof. Charles Bettleheim of France, Prof. Rangar Frisch and Dr. R. M. Goodwin. All these are suspected of fellow travelling tendencies. The latter two are econometricians and by virtue of their subject itself, they tend to think of human beings in terms of tidy little patterns of behaviour that can be fitted into equations and graphs. There is also danger from their tendency to see uniformity where it does not exist, as they are usually willing to enforce it if mere human beings do not conform to their pre-conceived notions, writes Prof. Hannan Exekiel in "Freedom First."

In physical planning, as understood by the statistician and his group of expert, there is implied a replacement of the democratic foundations of economic planning by a system of direction of resources which is so familiar to those who have studied the economics of the communist countries. Destruction of liberty is inherent in this technique of planning. Its greatest attraction is that it yields results, or so people are made to believe, though the sacrifice in terms of human suffering and the loss of liberty that has to be incurred is of course out of all proportion to its achievements.

There is little doubt that the Prime Minister himself is moved by the apparent inability of the economy to respond to the efforts made so far, as evidenced by the intractability of the problem of unemployment. Partly, this is a misreading of the situtation, for the results already achieved are by no means inconsiderable. Pandit Nehru is really a victim of the inefficiency of our publicity and the transparently dishonest efficiency of the publicity of the Communist dominated economies.

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Chamaraja Road, MYSORE.

That the totalitarian tendency in physical planning requires a control over the sources of data is apparent from the establishment of the National Sample Survey under the control of Prof. Mahalonobis for the purpose of collecting data about the economy of the country. Prof. D. R. Gadgil, who was associated with the work of the Survey for some time, has attacked the NSS as an authority "which through the nature of its being will tend to exterminate all parallel agencies in the field". He has pointed out that "with complete centralization and independent functioning the opportunity for doubtful operations may indeed be greatly increased." The danger is that the NSS may mould the facts to fit the particular programmes and policies that the Indian Statistical Institute may wish to put forward. A plan based on such foundations and in which the emphasis is placed on physical direction of resources, including manpower, can only lead to the destruction of democracy not merely in the economic but also in the political field. No amount of playing with input-output tables, which are really inapplicable in underdeveloped countries, or with income elasticities of demand which have not taken social factors into consideration, can disguise the essentially totalitarian characteristics of such planning. Pandit Nehru must think twice before entrusting the future of the country to a group of people who are so obviously determined to destroy that which he cherishes so much. And the people must take note of the red clouds on the Indian horizon that are deriving their strength from the work of the Indian Statistical Institute of Calcutta.

443 TO 8000

"The most prolific people on earth," is the description given to members of the Hutterite religious colonies of the mid-western U.S. and Canada.

The population Reference Bureau, a private research organisation, reported recently that these people's birth-rate from 1941 to 1950 averaged 45·9 babies per 1000 population. The normal U.S. average is 24·1.

The Hutterites, members of the Protestant Christian sect who practise communal ownership of property, are multiplying at a rate that exceeds even the phenomenal population increase rates of Brazil and Ceylon.

The original colony of 443 Hutterites who came to South Dakota from Russia between 1874 and 1877 has grown into 98 prosperous farm communities totalling some 8000 persons!

Hutterite couples usually marry well before the age of 21, and marriages are "for keeps." Most families have nine or more children.

At their present rate of increae the Hutterites will double their number in 16 years and total nearly half a million in 100 years.

Under a programme of comprehensive free medical care for all, the Hutterite death rate has dropped to ·44 per 1000 compared to 10·2 for the nation.

Morality standards are high.

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Wanted Sales Officers on Rs. 175/- P. M. to develop sales of Petroleum products, batteries, etc. Investment Rs. 251/-. Apply in English. Manager,

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Dum Dum, Calcutta-28.

The Rationalist

"OLD AGE DEFERRED"

"A man is as young as he feels," they say. Some men are prematurely old. Some old men do not feel their age. The following points from a book kindly lent us by a friend, who is himself young at 75, should be of interest to many of our readers :

"As years increase there is a gradual diminution of vital energy, and greater susceptibility to disease."

"A good many biologists hold that length of life is determined at the time of conception. At conception the future being inherits a certain amount of energy. This energy of the germ plasm is the capital of life. It rests with us how we spend it."

"Intemperate and licentious habits of early years leave us in old age with a worn out body. In addition, freedom from anxiety is essential."

With age "there is a progressive loss of the elasticity of the arteries, affecting the smooth flow of blood to the brain and all parts of the body."

"Death in the aged is a slow process, not a sudden event: a man may begin to die ten or fifteen years before he is buried."

"Good, earnest, useful employment of body and mind are not only compatible with, but even conducive to, longevity."

"If the young are the best advocates, the old are, by nature, the best judges. They can best weigh facts and ideas in the scales of justice. There is a certain maturity of judgment that nothing in the world but years can bring, a real wisdom that only age can teach."

"The healthy old man rarely reflects on the short number of years he has still to live. If he did he would get miserable. When Napoleon said to De Belloy, Archbishop of Paris, who was 96 years old, "You will live to a hundred," the Archbishop replied smilingly. "Your Majesty, why do you wish me to live only four years more?"

"Whether the natural term of man is threescore years and ten or one hundred years, only one-fourth of the population attains the former age, and only 15 in 100,000 become centenarians."

"Although more boys are born into the world than girls, after the 10th year the girls out-number the boys, and the proportion steadily increases. At the age of 85 and upwards there are 65 females to 35 males in 100 living at that age group."

"Marriage would appear conducive to longevity."

"Humourists, philosophers, and historians appear to live long. Novelists, dramatists, and poets are less so."

"The human body is a living, automatic, self-reproducing and self-repairing machine which is animated by a form of energy which we call life. Feeble electric currents are produced by every contracting muscle; an electric charge is associated with every nerve impulse. The human body is an apparatus run by billions of electric cells, each cell being a little wet battery with negative and positive poles. When light falls on the retina of the eye an electric current is produced in the optic nerve. The electricity of the human body can be registered at a distance of two metres. Electricity is generated in the lungs with every inspiration. The magneto of an automobile presents many points of resemblance with the brain. The electricity of the body will explain the truth that "nature heals."

The thyroid gland sets the tempo for life. As old age advances, it produces less and less energy.

It is a mistake to suppose that rejuvenation, in the sense of return to younger years, is possible. All that we can do is to reactivate the bodily processes so as to prevent or reduce premature signs of senility.

"Many of the European baths considered to have rejuvenating powers, have waters charged with radium emanation. Through the use of it the person feels "born all over again." Electric treatment, combined with radium emanation treatment should improve the functions of the body whenever below normal, or in old age."

"The great thing is to recognise in due time the restriction of one's powers, and adapt one's mode of life to them. Moderation in all things should be the rule. It is a great mistake to suppose that idleness is conducive to longevity. In the words of Johnson,

"When you are idle, be not solitary,
And when you are solitary, be not idle."

"Life is only worth living so long as there is something to live for."

"A great point is to keep up a variety of mental occupations, but no kind of strain must be put upon the mind."

"Old age can be made the happiest period of life. One secret of its attainment is contentment. There is no mental strain so risky as that of a fit of anger."

"Fresh fruit and green vegetables should form part of the chief meal. The only general rule about food is that which prescribes moderation."

"Discovering how much exercise one can take without exhausting one's powers, care should be taken never to exceed the limit."

"Warmth is very important. Exposure to chills should be avoided."

"Three prime rules of health are, to keep the feet warm, the head cool, and the bowels open."

A HOUSE-WIFE'S IDEA

If you're a housewife, take pride in the achievement of America's most famous housewife, Mrs. John Dorr, who has halved the number of accidents on a main road in Connecticut.

Mrs. Dorr runs a small car and whenever she used it at night she found herself specially subject to the hypnotic dazzle of headlights on other cars. She found herself swerving towards them. When she steered away she found her car went over the kerbless edge of the road!

While washing up one day, she thought over the problem and had an idea. "Why don't the authorities put a white line at the edge as well as in the middle of the road?" she asked her husband.

He was so impressed by the idea that he told the Connecticut highway department. They decided to try it out on the main road where the Dorrs live.

They were delighted to find that accidents were at once cut by fifty per cent., thanks to Mrs, Dorr's idea. Now it has been decided to make the new edge-of-the-road line luminous.

Highway officials of the other forty-seven states are now contemplating introducing the idea on their main roads, for 38,300 people die in accidents on U.S. roads every year.

PAYING WITH BLOOD

Sixty sailors at Great Lakes, Illinois, queued up outside St. Luke's Hospital recently to sell their blood.

George Prideaux, a pal of theirs, got a $60 bill following an operation which saved his young wife's life. He couldn't pay.

So the sailors made a deal with the hospital; for every pint of blood they gave, a sum of money was knocked off their friend's debt!

SADDEST WORD

Norman Zierold, a student at the University of Iowa, is paying his way through the university not by selling magazines but by writing for them. Deciding to try to build a feature round "The Saddest Word in the English Language," he wrote and asked a number of famous people for their selections. An amazing percentage replied, and their answers were interesting—and characteristic. Here are a few:

T. S. Eliot: "The saddest word in the English language is, of course, 'saddest.'"

Oscar Hammerstein II: "The saddest word I know is 'but.'"

John Dos Passas quoted Keats: "Forlorn! the very word is like a bell...."

Karl Menninger, the psychiatrist: "Unloved."

Emily Kimbrough: "The phrase I count pathetic, and blanch when I hear it, is when, at the conclusion of a story, the story-teller says, 'Well, it was awfully funny the way he told it.'"

Bernard M. Baruch: "Hopeless."

George Balanchine, the choreographer: "The saddest word in the English language—or in any language—is 'vacuum.'"

Harry Truman quoted John Greenleaf Whittier:

'For of all sad words of tongue or pen,
The saddest are these: "It might have been!"'

Alexandra Tolstoy: "The saddest word in all languages, which has brought the world to its present condition, is 'atheism.'"

James Thurber: "Almost everybody starts out by trying to sell other people's words to magazines as his own, and you will have to go through this phase .... Years ago a guy like you asked a number of writers what was the loveliest word in the language, and Ring Lardner came up with 'mange!'"

INEFFICIENCY AND WASTE

The Mysore Legislative Council referred to the irregularities pointed out by the Accountant-General and criticised the Government for being inefficient in regard to control over public expenditure. The Accountant-General, it said, had pointed out the inefficiency of Government in respect of bridge and tunnel works, the dictatorial attitude of the Ministry and indifference towards public money, losses due to the Tractor Organisation, irregularities in stock verification in the medical stores etc. Instead of the Ministers controlling the departments, the officers controlled them.

There were large variations between what was sanctioned and what was spent. There was lack of control over expenditure. In many cases financial irregularities such as in the Tractor Service Organisation had resulted in huge loss. Works estimated to cost lakhs of rupees were brought under "new service" and sanction taken!

WORK CURE

"The happy people are those who are producing something; the bored people are those who are consuming much and producing nothing. Boredom is a certain sign that we are allowing our faculties to rust in idleness. When people are bored, they generally look about for a new pleasure, or take a holiday. There is no greater mistake: what they want is some hard piece of work, some productive drudgery. Doctors are fond of sending their fashionable patients to take a rest cure. In nine cases out of ten a work cure would do them far more good!"

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for the intelligent man, devoted to a rationalistic survey of all matters of Public interest, in the economic, commercial, and literary fields.

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KINDNESS PAYS

Many strange stories are told about people who have cast their bread upon the waters, and who have received their reward in wonderful ways when they expected no reward at all.

Twenty-two years ago a young man stepped from a ship in Cape Town with thirty shillings in his pocket. He had come to seek his fortune in South Africa, but before the day was over he had been attacked and robbed, and so badly beaten up that he spent ten days in hospital.

When he was discharged, he roamed the streets penniless and friendless until one evening, when he was standing disconsolately and in a starving condition on a street corner, a passing stranger stopped and spoke to him. He learned the immigrant's hard luck story.

The immigrant, Robert Baker Bell, formerly of Doncaster, Yorkshire, was taken home by the good Samaritan and fed and clothed. In a few days Bell was working, but continued to live with his benefactor, Mr. Jeremy Lawrence. He grew to like Lawrence's only child, Billy, aged six years.

In time Bell moved to Johannesburg and the Lawrences forgot about him. The years passed. Then one day, a few months ago, an advertisement called upon William Lawrence, son of Jeremy Lawrence, to contact a firm of solicitors. Lawrence did and learned that Bell had died and left his life savings to him! The amount of money was not much, being only £3,500, but the bread cast upon the waters by William Lawrence's father twenty-two years before had returned to the son!

An even stranger case is that of Joris and Helene Butler, British emigrants to America, where they arrived early in 1920. By the time they reached Los Angeles, where they hoped to settle, they were down to a few pennies, and to cap their desperate position, Helene was shortly to become a mother.

One evening, after the Butlers had slept on park benches for three nights running, they approached a man in a street. He looked like a tramp and they thought he was the most likely one to advice them where to get something to eat.

It turned out that he was a waiter at a restaurant and himself not well off, but he offered them the sanctuary of his room, his bed and what food he could bring them. For more than two months the Butlers lived in the room and their son was born there. Then Butler obtained employment as a salesman and the couple moved away.

In 1947 a Los Angeles newspaper carried an advertisement asking for the address of a man named Rudolf Knopfberger, one time waiter at a restaurant. The advertisement was carried by other papers, and when Knopfberger was eventually traced he was found to be living in a poorly furnished room in Cleveland, Ohio.

He had been ill for many years and was existing on a pittance allowed him by the State authorities.

Picture his amazement when he learned that after all these years Joris and Helene Butler had become rich and, wishing to repay their debt to him, had sought to find him.

He is now living with the Butlers in their comfortable home in Los Angeles!

Sometimes one of those seemingly impossible things happen that makes one wonder whether there is some Supreme Power that guides the destiny of men. In 1946, in London, a down-and-out stopped a well-dressed man and asked for a hand-out. The man gave the tramp a half a crown.

Late last year the clerk of a magistrate's court in South Africa glanced up casually as

a man came into court, summoned for speeding. When the fine was imposed, the clerk made an entry in his book. The man came forward to pay the £5, but the clerk waved him away. "See you outside," he said.

A few minutes later, when the court recessed, the clerk went out and found the motorist waiting.

"That one was on me," the clerk said, laughing. "In 1946 in London you gave a man half a crown one night, remember? That was me"!

A NEW CRAZE

Coloured, aluminium-clad skyscrapers are in prospect for America. The Aluminium Company of America (Alcoa) is going to cover Pittsburgh's newest skyscraper in blue aluminium.

Last year the company used coloured sheets for the first time on its own sales office building in Cincinnati, a combination of blue and gold. Alcoa hopes that the new Pittsburgh structure, the 16-storey Pennsylvania State Office Building, will set a style. The rainbow-hued metal is suitable for churches, schools, and even homes, the company says.

Ordinary silver-appearing structural aluminium is in wide use. Last year, in a demonstration of the economy in labour costs which structural aluminium offers, the bare beems of an entire New York skyscraper were clad with exterior aluminium walls in just nine and one-half hours!

The coloured sheets are slightly more expensive than the glistening silver ones, but Alcoa believes the added beauty effects any price difference.

As to the tinting process, the company reveals only that "oxidised metal is impregnated with colour," the colour is not coated on the aluminium.

"BHAKTAN"

The Tamil devotional monthly "Bhaktan", begins its fifth year with an attractive special issue, containing several learned and thoughtful articles on the life of Sri Rama, whose inspiring *avatar* this country has been celebrating for thousands of years from one end to the other. The articles have appeal both to men and women, both to the orthodox and the lay or anglicised. The number is embellished by colourful pictorial illustrations of Thyagaraja's great Kritis dedicated to Rama.

We are glad to see that the unique Journal is progressing and prospering under the able editorship of Sri M. O. Alasingrachari, B.A., B.L.. We wish it further prosperity so that it may discard the newsprint, and appear fittingly in white printing or art paper, because we think "Bhaktan" too good a magazine to be printed on newsprint, which is only fit for ephemeral and meretricious publications like "Kalki".

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THE MYSORE DISTRICT AUTOMOBILE ASSOCIATION

The Mysore Dt. Automobile Association celebrated their anniversary on the 11th inst. under the Chairmanship of Sri M. S. Shankara Rao, M.A., Dt. Magistrate, at the "Rationalist" Buildings, Mysore. A large number of bus-owners and guests were present. After group-photo the meeting commenced with invocation by Miss. G. Sreedevi. Mr. G. R. Josyer, M.A., F.R.E.S. President of the Association, in a Welcome Speech observed,

"Sri Shankara Rao and Gentlemen,

It is my pleasant duty to offer welcome to Mr. Shankara Rao to Mysore as Dt. Magistrate, and to welcome you all for today's function.

The invitation, I find, is discreetly silent about the number of the Annual Day. I believe it is really the 27th, two years past the silver jubilee! The Association has passed resolutions for the celebration of the Silver Jubilee under the auspices of the Central and local Ministers: but hasn't been able to give effect to them. It seems to be in two minds, whether to continue to live and thrive, or quietly die, like Bheeshma,—as the times are inauspicious.

The Association was the outcome of the kindly thought of a memorable administrator, Mr. A. V. Ramanathan, in 1928, when he was Deputy Commissioner. Its first meetings used to be held in the Dt. Office Buildings.

It has since received paternal consideration from his successors, Messrs Anantaraman, Keshaviengar, Kuppuswamiengar, Ramier, Abdul Wajid, K. Subba Rao, Mahommad Ahmad, fine men and fine officers, whose memory the Association cherishes with grateful remembrance. I think their present successor is an honourable addition to their illustrious rank.

The Association wishes to recall also, on this occasion, the several good bus-owners, Mr. K. V. Muniswamy Setty, V. Thimmayya, Dharmaratnakara Perumal Chetty, Major Rajagopal, and others who built up this Association, and were its mainstay for long years. They and other bus-owners have popularised bus-transport in the District for over a generation. And now Government steps in with what they call, "nationalisation"!

Nationalisation of the M. S. M. Railway is nationalisation. Nationalisation of the Gold Mines is nationalisation. Nationalisation of foreign banks is nationalisation. But ending of public undertakings run with intelligent and zealous care by local nationals, is not nationalisation, but destruction of public enterprise. If the buses are run by the Government it does not make it more national than if they are run by the public. Such expropriation is not a gain to the nation. Instead, it kills public enterprise, and deadens public incentive.

But ill-understood catch-words, and confusion of ideas, are unfortunately the order of the day; and we have to bear with them as best we can.

Government have taken up the best roads, and driven the bus-owners to the goats' tracks of the wilderness, with long routes, little traffic, and God-forsaken roads. In the result, the bus-owners have to cope with quick wear and tear, with replacement costs at 3 or 4 times what they were ever before. The lion's share of what they earn goes to Government in taxes, the fox's share goes to drivers and conductors, and the owners get only the dog's

share,—bones! And, as to their creditors, God alone should help them!

Under the circumstances, if the Dt. Magistrates, and other Dt. Authorities, apply the rules, and enforce them to the strict letter, it would be like consigning a sick child to the dead house, instead of giving it medical aid and restoring it to health.

Being myself a strickler for rules, I hardly suggest that rickety buses should be certified as good. Any buses, which the District Magistrates' two counsellors,—his understanding head and humane heart—jointly consider unserviceable, have to be scrapped. But where a bus is still passably safe for the public, it may be kindly and graciously permitted to render further useful service to the public for the time being. As things stand, this nation has to get the last ounce out of both its men and materials. For that reason, and as the District Magistrate stands in *forma parentis* to the Bus transport of the District, I am asked to commend the interests of Bus-owners to your kindly care.

I request you to graciously preside over this evening's function, and give the Association your authoritative blessings."

Then Sri S. Sangaiya, B.A., Hon. Secretary of Association, presenting a report, traced the origin of the Association in 1927 by the efforts of the then Dt. Magistrate, Rajamantrapraveena A. V. Ramanathn, with Professor H. R. Krishnamurthy Rao as President, and Sri G. R. Josyer as Vice-President. Two years later Sri G. R. Josyer was elected Honorary President, and has continued to guide the Association ever since, for over 25 years. He explained how bus-transport had been becoming increasingly competitive and costly, and sought the protection of the Dt. Magistrate in the midst of their difficulties. Sri K. Narayana Rao, Proprietor of Sri Yoganarasimha Service, and Sri Anantharama Bhat of Mandya further explained the hardships of bus-owners, and urged the need for restricting the issue of fresh permits, and relaxing the 5 year rule for condemning buses, while the parts were replaceable and there was further life in the buses.

Speaking from the Chair, Sri M. S. Shankara Rao thanked the Association for the warm welcome accorded to him, and observed that in times of crucial changes in the country it was inevitable that the interests of individual groups should suffer in view of larger interests, that he was aware of some of the difficulties of bus-owners, the high costs, the fact that much of the income from overloading did not reach them, etc. But generally a bus's life lasted from a lakh to 130 thousand miles, and that length would be covered in 5 or 6 years, and hence the rule. He was pained to notice that some buses which were shown as fit at the inspection showed set-backs within a fortnight, which was a very objectionable thing to do. The problem of overloading had to be tackled by the bus-owners themselves, and he hoped they would do so. He appreciated their offer of co-operation in making bus-transport safe and sound, and in return promised to do all he could not to cause them undue hardship in the application of the rules.

Sri G. R. Ramiah offered grateful thanks to the Chairman, Mr. Shankara Rao, and the President, Mr. G. R. Josyer for gracing the function amidst their numerous engagements and assured the Dt. Magistrate of the loyal co-operation of bus-owners, and commended them to his considerate treatment.

With the singing of the national anthem, the pleasant function came to a close.

RED

Seven housewives who applied red colouring to the doorsteps of their council homes at Bardwell, Suffolk, have been ordered by the rural district authority to remove the controversial stain.

But Slough Borough Council, after long discussion, has decreed that tenants who tinted their doorsteps red could continue the custom.

Womenfolk engaged on such a task unconciously perpetuate a historic belief that no danger or disease will cross a reddened threshold.

For centuries red has been a symbol for safety. During the Middle Ages a sign called a "sigil" was painted in red on the porch of many a British house. This device was considered to possess an uncanny power to banish evil and bring blessings on the occupants.

The custom originated in the Middle East where mystic marks were inscribed in red on entrances.

When a Maori chieftain dies his home is daubed with crimson ochre. Then a carved post, painted red, is erected in front of the door.

The corpse is wrapped in red cloth. And resting places on the way to the grave are marked in the same colour. These rites are supposed to attract good fortune to the dead man's successor.

And, strange as it may seem, even the poorest Madagascan native saves enough money during his lifetime to buy a red silk robe in which mourners can wrap his body when he dies. He has faith that this will safeguard his soul.

Farming families in the Balkans maintain another curious tradition.

Before setting fire to the yule log they bind it with red silk and pour corn and wine over the top.

According to these country people this will ensure an abundant harvest during the ensuing season.

Arabs and North Indian tribesmen believe that a red carbuncle stone will protect the wearer from wounds in battle. But the ruby has an even wider reputation as a lucky keepsake for men on active service. Henry V wore a large uncut ruby for personal safety at the Battle of Agincourt.

Red has always been revered for its antiseptic qualities and warmth—hence the old popularity of red flannel undies.

A bright red jacinth was formerly favoured by troops as a safeguard against fever. And in India the same precious stone is cherished as a charm against poison.

When the Chinese sported pigtails they intertwined scarlet threads in the plaits to keep adverse influences at bay. And even to-day millions of Chinese parents choose for their children's garments fabrics with red stripes, which are believed to prevent illness.

To ward off infection, material dyed red is used for lining pockets in oriental clothing.

British nurses still wear red-lined cloaks.

After the son of Edward II caught smallpox, all the furniture in the royal sickroom was painted red. The treatment proved so successful that the Prince recovered without disfigurement!

Records also reveal that Emperor Francis I, father of Marie Antoinette, was swathed in scarlet blankets to hasten his recovery when he had smallpox.

In Eire they say a thread of scarlet worsted placed round the neck will cure a sore throat. And red flannel is often wound round the necks of Scottish children suffering from whooping cough.

During the last century a Fleet Street shop advertised "red tongues of cloth to be tied round the throats of patients smitten with scarlet fever." And even to-day a soldier's hospital outfit includes a red tie.

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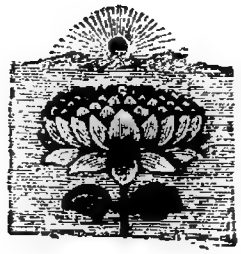

THE RATIONALIST

A Weekly

for the intelligent man, devoted to a rationalistic survey of all matters of Public interest, in the economic, commercial, and literary fields.

Proprietor & Editor : G. R. JOSYER, M.A., F.R.E.S.

Vol. XV No. 34] Monday 23—5—1955 [Price 0—1—6.

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NEW METHODS

The young new managing director of an engineering firm noticed that double green-baize doors securely sound-proofed his private office. "Take them down!" he decreed. "What's in here is for everyone to hear."

He invited the men to have a beer with him at the local—and grouse.

They got their pet peeves off their chests. The old management had limited piece-rates. "What nonsense!", said the new director. "Let's have unlimited pay for nulimited work!" Within a year the men were producing £1,000 worth of goods for every £700 worth they'd turned out in the previous twelve-month.

In a Lancashire mill, psychologists advised the boss that worry and nervous tension caused production lags. Little things like a family tiff, a missed bus could lesson concentration. The remedy, they explained, was complete relaxation.

Taking the experts at their word, the mill-owner bought dozens of comfortable camp-beds. "Lie down and relax when you feel like it," he ordered.

Then there's the instance of a metal concern that found it could afford to pay out £30,000 more in wages. "How would you like the money?" the management asked the workers.

Even the tea-trolley girl and the broom boys had a voice in the answer. It would have been simple to add an extra 1s. in the £ to wages, but the workers preferred a more complicated plan, giving them greater privileges and security.

Among other details they fixed up a Critics' Forum. Over the factory loudspeakers every Friday anyone can say what he likes about the factory, the boss or working methods. The person or department criticized has the right to go to the microphone then and there and answer back. It's better than a whispering campaign—and every man and woman in the place knows what's going on.

These three instances are just three good reasons why British industrial output has now reached the highest level in history.

A vacuum cleaner firm has built a model race-course in its factory, complete with model horses. The horses represent ten teams of factory workers and carry their colours. According to output the horses leg it along the course daily.

Behind this production race lies another race. British and American factories of the vacuum cleaner firm competed for a week in output—the British won.

One firm had to fight absenteeism because its women workers spent so much time at the shops in the afternoon. It successfully fought back by opening market stalls in the canteen. Another company worked out its average daily output and told the staff that for every extra day's output won through the winter they could add a day to their holidays in the summer. Winter production graphs soared. Last year the employees got three-and-a-half week's holiday with pay instead of two!

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ROADS OF GLASS

Seaweed and sunflower-husks are being successfully used as road-making materials in Britain.

Worcestershire County Council has pioneered the method. Other councils are investigating its possibilities. It is officially stated that one road built recently by this special method cost 8s. 10½d. instead of the normal 15s. a square yard.

Keeping the great highways in order costs a vast sum every year, so every time a new road-making material is tried local authorities all over the country watch results with interest.

In California a durable plastic road surface five feet thick has been constructed. Managers of a sugar refinery in Utah once used some of the syrup waste products of the business in the making of a new road. The syrup was used as a cement, the body of the road material being made up of fine gravel.

Lancashire tried out a cotton road. Lengths of coarse fabric, laid just beneath the top surfacing, were found to prevent uneven wear and corrugation.

Wool was another strange road material used in Australia. Mixed with sand, the result was a binding material which did duty on many miles of rural roads.

In an attempt to achieve a perfect non-skid roadway, a German surveyor experimented with a cloth road. Along 100 yards of a twenty-foot-wide roadway a layer of jute cloth was laid as a foundation for a tarmac surface dressing.

He found that the cloth made the roadway remain dry during hot weather intsead of the tar becoming sticky, slippery and dangerous to motorists. The only snag was the cost.

A road of glass runs between Roaring Mountain and Golden Gate in Yellowstone National Park, United States.

Engineers had planned an ordinary road there, but when a route had been mapped out they found they would have to find a way of cutting down part of a mountain of volcanic black glass to make a passage for their new road.

Blasting with dynamite failed to remove the obstruction. Then a man who had once worked as a glass-blower suggested heating the mountain to a high temperature and then spraying it with water.

Huge bonfires of dry logs were lighted along the line of the highway for three quarters of a mile and were kept burning for fifty hours. Ice-cold water was used to spray the sides of the mountain.

Suddenly the glass mountain exploded. The vast mass of glass debris was then used for building the road. It was almost as hard as flint!

SHOWING OFF

Tommy was showing off his new bicycle. He went up the road, and on coming back shouted: "Look, Mummy—no hands!"

"Be careful, Tommy!" said his mother. "You will hurt yourself."

Tommy laughed and cycled up the road again. When he next appeared he called out: "Look Mummy—no feet!"

"Oh, be careful, Tommy!" repeated his mother.

Again Tommy went off up the road, and it was some time before he reappeared. When he did, he called out, not quite so cheerily, "Look, Mummy—no teeth!"

The Rationalist

PATIENCE

Because an elderly Indian widow treasured a large vase which she accidentally knocked off her mantel-piece, she spent nearly six months sticking the hundreds of tiny broken pieces together again.

"My friends told me it was a hopeless task when I began it," she said, "but I was determined to make the vase whole again. It was purely a question of patience."

Patience—that was her secret. Few people possess such infinite patience in these hectic days, but those who do will tell you that it pays.

There's a man living in Los Angeles who knows all about the value of patience. In 1951 he was jostled in the street by a pickpocket and robbed of his pocket-watch, a family heirloom which his father gave him on his death-bed.

He resolved to get it back, however long it took. For three years he made a practice of stopping every man he met in the street and asking what time it was!

One spring day in 1954, after he had glanced at thousands of watches, he encountered a furtive-looking man in a bus and asked him the inevitable question. The man pulled out the stolen watch! The owner stopped the bus and called a policeman!

When a U.S. army private fell in love with a pretty redhead in 1943, he proposed almost at once. She turned him down. But he was a determined, patient man and vowed to a friend: "I'll just go on asking her to marry me until she says 'Yes.'"

That evening he changed about £3 into small coins, went to a call-box and began dropping coin after coin in the slot, dialling her number and proposing every time she answered!

She kept saying "No." He kept on ringing her. This went on for nearly eleven hours.

When he hoarsely declared his love for her and asked her for the 140th time to marry him, she gave in and whispered her assent. The couple plan to christen their first daughter "Patience!"

CRIME GROWTH

Shortly after J. Edgar Hoover reported that crime in the United States was outstripping the rate of growth of population by four to one, New York's Police Commissioner declared that the new crime growth rate was more than true in the big city.

Describing an average day of crime, he said: "Before this hot August Sunday is over, one of us in this city will have been murdered. Another of us will have been dead as the result of criminal negligence. Twenty-seven of our people will have been feloniously assaulted. Three women will have been raped. One hundred and forty of our homes and businesses will have been burglarised. Forty of us will have had our cars stolen. Thirty-one of us will have been held up and robbed on the streets of this city. Sixty-nine grand larcenies will have taken place before this day is over. And there will have been fifteen other miscellaneous felonies, such as frauds, possession of dangerous weapons, and sex offences other than rape and the like. Is it any wonder that in many areas sensible people are reluctant to walk our streets at night?"

EARNING A LIVING

It was found recently that there was too much unnecessary noise in a large south of England hospital; so the committee decided to appoint a "preventive maintenance man."

His job? To spend the day going round every part of the hospital with an oil-can and screw-driver attending to all squeaking doors and banging windows. It keeps him very busy. To his friends he jokes: "Mine's a hush-hush job!"

There's no end to the novel ways in which men and women can earn a living. In London there's a man who makes a good income writing other people's love letters. In New York a pretty and shapely girl spends many of her working hours in water—testing bathing costumes! She has to report whether they are proof against shrinking.

In a fishing village near Capetown lives a man who is paid to gaze out over the sea through binoculars. His job is to watch for shoals of fish and signal their presence to fishermen.

Some women who signed on at an employment exchange one autumn day explained that during the summer they were employed at a big fun fair as "professional screamers." They had been paid to "provoke excitement" on flip-flaps, roundabouts and joy wheels.

A firm of bird dealers in Australia employs two men to teach parrots and budgerigers to talk. The men are linguists and teach the birds various languages so that they can be sold overseas.

How would you like to make skeletons for a living? A man in London who does so sells them to medical students and professors studying anatomy.

MAN'S FRIEND

More than thirty dogs, Alsatians and Labradors, are being trained with paratroopers in the Australian Army. Given special harness, they are taught to jump from 'planes, their parachutes being similar to those supplied to the troops.

They are being trained, on landing, to locate hidden mines, detect an approaching enemy, and act as guard dogs. A limited number was chosen because the authorities were not certain how dogs would react in the air.

But these two breeds have such confidence in the men with whom they train, and exhibit such little fear in the air, that soon a larger number will be attached to each battalion.

LUCKY AUTHORS

Many aspiring novelists must have envied Nicholas Monsarrat, brilliant author of "The Cruel Sea" when it was revealed the other day that he earned £200,000 from that novel. As it is just over 200,000 words long, this works out at about £1 a word!

But there's a snag. Monsarrat himself has pointed out that "the tax collector got 18s. a word!" High taxes and high production costs make it much more difficult for to-day's outstanding authors to amass the fortunes which went to novelists thirty years ago.

Sir Hall Caine, who was then netting about £60,000 a year from royalties on his novels, left the biggest-ever estate for a British author, £250,000! Sir James Barrie, author of "Peter Pan," was then earning about £45,000 a year, and H. G. Wells about £29,000 a year!

Perhaps the biggest sum ever paid to an author for a short story was the £25,000 which Ernest Hemingway received in 1945 from a Hollywood company. It ran to 3,500 words.

THE TEACHERS' COLLEGE

Sri. A. C. Deve Gowda, Principal, Teachers' College, Mysore, writes,—

The Government of India have sanctioned the establishment of a department of Extension Services in the Teachers' College, Mysore. A grant of about Rs. 1,50,000 spread over a period of three years has been made for this purpose. The Principal of the College will be the ex-officio Director of the Department of Extension Services and he will be assisted by a special staff.

The main object of this Department is to improve the quality of Secondary Education in the State by taking the technical knowledge and the special facilities available in the Teachers' College to the Secondary Schools in the State.

The following are some of the services proposed to be started during the academic year 1955-56 :-

1. Week-end Courses in Education for Secondary School Teachers in service in nearby towns like Mandya and Nanjangud.

2. Vacation Courses in Education for Kannada and Hindi Teachers of Secondary Schools.

3. The celebration of an Education Week, including lectures, exhibitions, film shows, parent teacher meetings, literary and sports competitions for children, etc.

4. Printing and publication of a monthly Educational Bulletin, of Teaching Aids prepared by the College, and of periodical reports on progressive activities and experiments in Education. These publications will be supplied free of cost to all High Schools in the State.

5. A Library Service for the benefit of teachers in Secondary Schools within a radius of about 25 miles from Mysore. A library of essential books on education and a delivery van will be made available for this service.

6. Educational Seminars during Dasara and Christmas Vacations to discuss educational problems and to exchange ideas and experiences. Reports of these Seminars will be printed and supplied free of cost to all High Schools in the State.

£1,000,000

What an expensive feeling it must be to take out a £100,000 life insurance policy on one's life! That is just what a Stamford, Lincs., man did recently.

The premium? A cool £18,000 a year!

Our researches show, however, that this is by no means a record. In 1930 a London business magnate signed for himself and his eldest son a life insurance of no less than £1,000,000. The amount of the premium was not revealed.

Nine years ago it was reported that Pierre Du Pont, head of a vast family business in the United States worth £143,000,000, was the holder of the largest personal life insurance in the world, amounting to £1,500,000.

One of the most unusual life insurance policies was issued in the United States by one of the big assurance companies in 1923. It covered the entire personnel of the Philadelphia police department!

Under the terms of the policy, the life of each of the 2,500 police officers was insured for 33,000 dollars! It was said to be the largest group insurance policy ever issued.

The I. A. S. R.

The International Academy of Sanskrit Research has reason to believe that Sanskrit Culture embodies a full-blown and reigning civilisation of the past,

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G. R. JOSYER.
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Rs. 5—0—0 net

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HUMAN DYNAMO

No wonder they call quick-thinking, much-travelled Sir Alexander Hyslop Maxwell a human dynamo.

He's one of the busiest, and, and happiest, men we know. Travel and tobacco are his chief interests. He has been chairman of the British Travel and Holidays Association since 1947 and has been in the tobacco business for about 35 years.

His latest activity is on the board of the company which recently opened Westbury Hotel, the first American hotel ever to be built in London.

The son of a judge, energetic Sir Alexander was fifty-nine on April 21st. Under his guidance Britain's tourist trade has boomed, and become a tremendous dollar-earner. He is one of the most travelled men in the country, and a world propagandist of Britain as a tourist centre.

He was Britain's Tobacco Controller during the war, and in his straight-from-the-shoulder manner used to say that most of the cigarette shortage was artificially produced by "under the counter" trade.

To prove this he once took a colleague from shop to shop where the magic words, "Look here, I'm the Tobacco Controller; now, have you any cigarettes?" caused more dives under the counter than had ever been seen before.

Sir Alexander somehow finds time to be a hospital governor, a director of a hotel company and to play golf. He served with the Royal Naval Division during the first world war. He was interned in Holland after the fall of Antwerp.

186000 MILES PER SECOND

Mr. R. M. Mellon, of World Wonders Unlimited, Los Angeles, California, recently set the BBC a poser. He had heard that when the strokes of Big Ben were broadcast throughout the world they were heard sooner in Australia than they were in London. "We do not however, have the precise information," wrote Mr. Mellon. "As we consider this to be a world wonder, we like to use it for our new series." The BBC investigated the matter and received from its engineers the following answer, which was duly broadcast in its General Overseas Service programme, "Commonwealth Club," to set Mr. Mellon's mind at rest. "It is perfectly true that a person standing, say, in Parliament Square would hear the strokes of Big Ben later than a radio listener in Australia tuned to the General Overseas Service. The reason for this is that radio waves travel very much faster than sound waves. The speed of radio waves is approximately 186,000 miles per second, whereas sound waves only have a speed of roughly 750 miles per hour. The microphone in Big Ben is suspended very close to the bell, and is, therefore, much closer to the sound waves than someone standing below in the street. The effect of this is that, because of the greater velocity of radio waves, the radio listener in Australia would hear Big Ben's strokes a fraction of a second before a pedestrian in Parliament Square!"

ಯಜುರುಪಾಕರ್ಮ ೦–೪–೦.

ಯಜುಸ್ಸಂಧ್ಯಾವಂದನೆ ೦–೪–೦.

ವಿಶಿಷ್ಟಾದ್ವೈತಸಾರ

"ಚಿಕ್ಕದೇವರಾಜವಿನ್ನಪಂ" ದಿವ್ಯಗ್ರಂಥದಮೇಲಿನ ಉಪನ್ಯಾಸಮಾಲೆ. ೦–೪–೦.

Life of Saint Anantarya.
in English and Hindi. 1–0–0.

CURSE OF DIVORCE

Divorce is a curse and a canker which has eaten into the vitals of the Western society, says Mr. B. C. Gupta in the Weekly 'People.' It has ruined the stability of the Western society where there is nothing like family life and domestic happiness, as Doctor William Kaufman, an eminent psychologist of America has observed.

"American husbands have to provide their wives with television set, fur coat, a motor car, seperate bed room etc. to get a hot home-cooked meal after a whole day's toil! Some times a woman who resents her husband serves him none of the food he enjoys. If the resentment reaches intense hatred meat is scorched, bread is stale, vegetables are cold and foggy! The husband begins his retaliation criticising her food, and ends by paying her alimony." (Chicago Times 12-1-1953.)

Owing to this, he says, psychological morbidity in Western society has increased enormously during the last three or four decades.

In Australia the husbands, for their protection from nagging wives, have had to have recourse to a society for prevention of cruelty to husbands!

The rate of divorce (in America one in every four marriages, and in Britain one marriage breaks up every 10 minutes), has made social reformers of the West rack their brains to find ways and means to change the marriage system, because the looseness of marriage tie is fast destroying the fabric of society, and tearing it to terrible tatters of transgression.

Is it not pitiful and pitiable, he asks, for blind votaries of modernism to have introduced divorce in Hindu marriage system which has earned unequivocal admiration as the only institution for the upkeep of stability of a healthy society, and as an impregnable bulwark of spotless purity against licence and immorality? In the Privy Council Case of Gokul Chand vs. Hukum Chand 49 IAR 62 Lord Sumner in delivering judgment said:

"Ancient customs and religious convictions hoary with age should never be interfered with, lightly or seriously, for the simple reason that the things that have stood the test of time are infinitely more valuable than the products of man's egoism.....We conceive it of the highest importance that no variations or uncertainties should be introduced into the established and widely recognized laws which govern an ancient civilization, and least of all in matters affecting family rights and duties connected with ancestral customs and religious convictions."

But we are under the thumb of poor misguided Mr. Nehru, and his idio-Syncracies.

Dd.

THE SHAH'S OFFER

All the pother in Parliament about hanging would have been quite incomprehensible to a former Shah of Persia who visited King Edward VII.

In the course of his visit he was taken to His Majesty's prisons and shown a gallows. "What a wonderful idea!" he exclaimed. "In Persia we cut their heads off with an axe."

Then, after a pause, he asked: "Can I see the gallows in use?"

"I'm afraid," said the governor, "we've no one waiting to be hanged."

"That's all right," said the Shah, "take one of my suite!"

The Rationalist

HONOUR TO A SAVANT.

To honour Sangeeta Shastra Ratna Vasudevachariar on his 91st birthday, the Ashoka Arts Academy orgarised a public meeting of the citizens of Mysore on the 25th inst. The President of the State Sangeet Natak Academy presided.

After invocation and welcome songs, Sri M. S. Cheluviengar read messages received from important persons including Dr. C Rajagopalachari and Dr. S. Radhakrishnan.

Speaking next, Sri G. R. Josyer observed, "Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Not being older than Sri Vasudevachariar, I will not presume to speak of his Baala-leelas or his youthful brilliance. For many years I have held him in esteem as a respected elder, and am glad to participate in this assemblage of Mysore citizens convened to honour the venerable and distinguished savant.

Sri Vasudevacharyar is the second great old man of Mysore, the first being Bharataratna Sir Visweswaraya.

There is a Sanskrit saying, "ಜೀವನ ಭದ್ರಾಣಿ ಪಶ್ಯತಿ", meaning, "If you go on living, you will meet with nice experiences." Sir Visweswaraya and Sri Vasudevachariar, getting national titles and awards in their 94th and 91st years, exemplify that wise old saying.

Sri Vasudevachariar's longevity proves that his ancestors must have been good men, and that he himself has led a good life, "Mens sana in corpore sano,"—a pure mind in a healthy body.

That at the age of 91 he is still alert and vital enough to reign where great Annie Besent reigned, amidst surroundings over which her soul still hovers, is an inspiration to all younger men.

Incidentally, we who have been seeing artists of Madras come and revel in Mysore, brushing aside local talent, during the last 30 years, are glad to see Sri Vasudevachariar turning the tables, and receive honours in Madras!

We are proud of Sri Vasudevachariar's age, of his renown, and of the honours that have been coming th him.

When Napoleon said to the Archbishop of Paris, who was 96 years old, "You will live to a hundred," the Arch-bishop replied smilingly, "Your Majesty, why do you wish me to live only 4 years more?" So I will say to Sri Vasudevachariar, "I hope you will live to 120!" That makes—not 4—but 30 years more!

Gentlemen, Sri Vasudevachariar's uniqueness in the musical world is that he is a Shastraic musician learned in Sanskrit. Sanskrit is the treasure-house of many great sciences, and Music is one of them. The Chinese call Music "the science of sciences."

Indian music is as ancient as the Indian Gods. God Shiva's Taandava-Nritya is a war-dance with a musical setting. The first father to purchase a Veena for his daughter was God Brahma for his daughter, Goddess Saraswathi. Krishna's flute has given rise to volumes of sacred lore.

In a thousand years old Sanskrit work, Music is described as follows:

ಸಾಮವೇದಾದಿದಂ ಗೀತಂ ತಜ್ಜಗ್ರಾಹ ಪಿತಾಮಹಃ ।
ತದ್ಗೀತಂ ನಾರದಾಯೈವ ತೇನ ಲೋಕೇಷುವರ್ಣಿತಂ ॥
ಗೀತೇನ ಪ್ರೀಯತ ದೇವಸ್ಸರ್ವಜ್ಞಃ ಪಾರ್ವತೀಪತಿಃ ।
ಗೋಪೀಪತಿರನಂತೋಪಿ ವಂಶಧ್ವನಿವಶಂಗತಃ ॥
ಸಾಮವೇದೆ ತತೋಬ್ರಹ್ಮಾ ವೀಣಾಸಕ್ತಾ ಸರಸ್ವತೀ ।
ಅನ್ಯೇಚ ಬಹವಃಪೂರ್ವಾ ಯಕ್ಷದಾನವ ಮಾನವಾಃ ॥
ಅಚ್ಛಾತ ಹೃದಯಸ್ವಾದು ಬ್ರಾಲಃ ಪರ್ಯಂಕಧಾರಕಃ ।
ರುದಗೀತಾಮೃತಂ ಪೀತ್ವಾ ಹರ್ಷೋನ್ಮರ್ಷಂ ಪ್ರಪದ್ಯತೆ ।
ವನೆಚರಸ್ತೃಣಾಹಾರಃ ಶ್ರುತ್ವಾ ಮೃಗಶಿಶುಃ ಪಶುಃ ।
ಲುಬ್ಧೊ ಲುಬ್ಧಕಸಂಗೀತೆ ಗೀತೆಯಚ್ಛತಿ ಜೀವಿತಂ ॥

ಕೃಷ್ಣಸರ್ಪೋಽಪಿ ತನ್ನಾದಂ ಶ್ರುತ್ವಾ ಹರ್ಷಂ ಪ್ರಪದ್ಯತೆ।
ತಸ್ಯ ಗೀತಸ್ಯಮಾಹಾತ್ಮ್ಯಂ ಕಃ ಪ್ರಶಂಸಿತು ಮರ್ಹತಿ ॥
ಸರ್ವಾಶ್ರಮಾಣಾಂ ಜಾತೀನಾಂ ನೃಪಾಣಾಂ ಪ್ರೀತಿವರ್ಧನಂ।
ಧರ್ಮಾರ್ಥಕಾಮ ಮೋಕ್ಷಾಣಾಂ ಇದಮೇವಹಿಸಾಧನಂ ॥

ಅಂದರೆ, "ಸಂಗೀತವು ಸಾಮವೇದದಲ್ಲಿ ಹುಟ್ಟಿ ದೇವರುಗಳಿಗೆಲ್ಲ ಪ್ರೀತಿಕರವಾಗಿದೆ. ತೊಟ್ಟಿಲಲ್ಲಿ ಅಳುತ್ತಿರುವ ಅಜ್ಞಾನಿಯಾದ ಮಗುವೂ ಕೂಡ ಸಂಗೀತವನ್ನು ಕೇಳಿ ಅಳುವನ್ನು ನಿಲ್ಲಿಸಿ ಕೇಕೆ ಹಾಕುತ್ತದೆ. ವನದಲ್ಲಿ ತೃಣವನ್ನು ಮೇಯುತ್ತಿರುವ ಜಿಂಕೆಯ ಮರಿಯೂ ಗೀತವನ್ನು ಕೇಳಿ ಮೇಯುವದನ್ನು ಬಿಟ್ಟು ಸ್ತಬ್ಧವಾಗಿ ನಿಲ್ಲುತ್ತದೆ. ಕೃಷ್ಣಸರ್ಪವೂ ಕೂಡ ಸಂಗೀತವನ್ನು ಕೇಳಿ ಹೆಡೆಯನ್ನು ತಲ್ಲಾಡಿಸುತ್ತಾ ಹರ್ಷಿಸುತ್ತದೆ. ಹೀಗೆ ಸಂಗೀತವು ಸರ್ವಾಶ್ರಮಗಳು, ಸಮಸ್ತ ಜಾತಿಗಳು, ರಾಜಾದಿ ಸಮಸ್ತ ಮಾನವರು ಎಲ್ಲರಿಗೂ ಆಹ್ಲಾದಕರ. ಧರ್ಮಾರ್ಥಕಾಮಮೋಕ್ಷಗಳಿಗೆ ಮುಖ್ಯವಾದ ಸಾಧನ. ಅದರ ಮಹಾತ್ಮ್ಯವನ್ನು ಯಾರು ವರ್ಣಿಸಬಲ್ಲರು?" ಎಂದು.

ಮತ್ತು,

ಸೋಽಪ್ಯಾಹತಃ ಪಂಚವಿಧೊ ನಾದಸ್ತು ಪರಿಕೀರ್ತಿತಃ।
ನಖವಾಯುಜ ಚರ್ಮಾಣಿ ಲೋಹಶಾರೀರಜಾಸ್ತಥಾ ॥
ನಖಂ ವೀಣಾದಯಃಪ್ರೋಕ್ತಾಃ ವಂಶಾದ್ಯಾ ವಾಯುಪೂರಕಾಃ
ಚರ್ಮಾಣಿಚ ಮೃದಂಗಾದ್ಯಾ ಲೋಹಾಸ್ತಾಲಾದಯಸ್ತಥಾ ॥
ದೇಹನಾದೇನ ತೇಯುಕ್ತಾಃ ನಾದಾಃ ಪಂಚವಿಧಾಸ್ಮೃತಾಃ।
ಗೀತಂ ವಾದ್ಯಂಚ ನೃತ್ಯಂಚ ತ್ರಯಂ ಸಂಗೀತಮುಚ್ಯತೆ ॥

Sangeeta comprises geeta, vaadya, and nritya, all the three. Its varieties are 5, nakhaja or sound produced on Veena or other strings by finger-nails, Vaayuja, sound produced through wind instruments, charmaja, sound produced by drums made of leather, lohaja, sound produced with brass or other metallic instruments, and shareeraja, sound produced vocally.

Today, advanced as we are, we know only one kind of Veena, whether it be Vynika-shikhamani Sheshanna's, Subbanna's, or Vynikapraveena Venkatagiriappa's, Venkataswamy Naidu's, or Doraswamy Iyengar's. But 700 years ago Sarngadeva speaks of 11 kinds of Veena. And 700 years earlier still Narada speaks of 18 kinds of Veena!

So ancient a work as Aitaraya Aranyaka speaks of ಮಾನುಷೀ ವೀಣಾ being modelled after the ದೈವೀ ವೀಣಾ:

"ಅಥ ಖಲ್ವಿಯಂ ದೈವೀ ವೀಣಾಭವತಿ। ತದನುಕೃತಿರಸೌಮಾನುಷೀ ವೀಣಾಭವತಿ। ಯಥಾಸ್ಯಾಃ ಶಿರಃ ಏವಮುಮುಷ್ಯಾಃ ಶಿರಃ। ಯಥಾಸ್ಯಾ ಉದರಮೇವಮಮುಷ್ಯಾ ಉದರಂ। ಯಥಾಸ್ಯೈ ಜಿಹ್ವಾ ಏವಮುಮುಷ್ಯೈ ವಾದನಂ। ಯಥಾಸ್ಯಾಸ್ತ್ರಂತ್ರಯಃ ಏವಮುಮುಷ್ಯಾ ಅಂಗುಲಯಃ। ಯಥಾಸ್ಯಾಃಸ್ವರಾಃ ಏವಮಮುಷ್ಯಾಃ ಸ್ವರಾಃ। ಯಥಾಸ್ಯಾಃ ಸ್ವರ್ಶೋ ಏವಮುಮುಷ್ಯಾಃ ಸ್ವರ್ಶಾಃ। ಯಥಾಹ್ಯೇನೇಯಂ ಶಬ್ದವತೀ ತರ್ದ್ಯವತೀ ಏವಮಸೌ ಶಬ್ದವತೀ ತರ್ದ್ಯವತೀ। ಯಥಾಹ್ಯೇನೇಯಂ ಲೋನುಶೀನ ಚರ್ಮಣಾ ಪಿಹಿತಾ ಲೋಮಶೀನ ಹಸ್ಯೈ ಚರ್ಮಣಾವೀಣಾ ಅಪಿದಧತಿ। ಸಯೋಹೈತಾಂ ದೇವೀಂ ವೀಣಾಂ ವೇದ ಶ್ರುತವದನೋ ಭವತಿ, ಭೂಮಿಷ್ಪಾಸ್ಯ ಕೀರ್ತಿರ್ಭವತಿ, ಯಚ್ಛ್ರುತ್ವಾವಾಚ್ಯ ವಾಚೋ ಭಾಷಂತೆ ವಿದುರೇನಂ ತಸ್ಯ ಇತಿ ॥"

The passage speaks of an earlier Veena being partly covered with leather, a practice later given up.

Thus we see that Indian music is a hundred times as old as Sri Vasudevachariar. The antiquity is not a false claim put forth by us, but is admitted by the most celebrated foreign scholars.

Sir William Hunter, Sir William Jones, Coleman, Benfey, Tod, Anne Wilson, Annie-Besant, concur in the view that Indian music had attained a theoretical precision yet unknown to Europe, and that at a period when even Greece was immersed in barbarism. And Anne Wilson declares that it must therefore be a secret source of pride to Indians to know that their system of music is the oldest in the world. Its principle features were given long ago in Vedic writings. Its principles were accepted even by the Mahommadan portion of the population in the days of their pre-eminence."

Sir William Hunter writes,

"A regular system of notation was worked out before the age of Panini, and seven notes were designated by their initial letters. The notations passed from the Indians through the Persians to Arabia, and was thence introduced into European music by Guido d' Arezzo at the beginning of the 11th century."

Hindu musicians used to go to foreign countries to grace the courts of foreign kings. King Behram of Persia had many Hindu musicians in his Court.

Indian music began in the higher emotions, and lifted them up to the spiritual sphere. The best Indian music did not touch the lower nature. It began in the purer region of high emotion and passed on into the spiritual world. In the words of Mrs. Annie Besant, "As they listened to some exquisite Indian melody, they lost the sense that they were present in the body at all. They found their minds stilled and quieted, and the mind vanished with the body, and they found themselves raised to a purer and subtler region."

That is, Indian music is spiritual, and devotional towards the Supreme Being. The life of Meera Bai, the music of Thyagaraja and Purandara Dasa, are venerated as highest examples of it. A European writer gives two examples of the highest type of Indian musician from the Court of Emperor Akbar.

"Of the musical effect produced by the singing of Gopal Naik, and of the romantic termination of the career of this sage, it is said that he was commanded by Akbar to sing the Deepak raga, and he, obliged to obey, repaired to the river Jumna, in which he plunged upto his neck. As he warbled the wild and magical notes, flames burst from his body and consumed him to ashes!" Of Tansen it is recorded that he also was commanded by the Emperor to sing the Sree Raga at midday, and the power of the music was such that it instantly became night, and the darkness extended in a circle round the Palace as far as his voice could be heard!"

Those men must have been musical dynamos!

The merit of Sri Vasudevacharyar is that he is a worshipper in the shrine of which Gopal Naik and Tansen were high priests. God has perhaps endowed him with long life so that his living inspiration may save Indian music from its mercenary and materialistic trends, which are degrading it today. It is a hopeful sign that the Asoka Arts Academy and the Sangeeta Natak Academy have combined to recognise his merit and accord him honour. Some day, again, we may have a Gopal Naik, and Tansen, and a Meera Bai!

I thank my friends of the Arts Academy for associating me in this remarkable function."

Dr. V. Subrahmanyam, Director of the Central Food Technological Research Institute, on behalf of the Tamil Sangam of Mysore, offered congratulations to Sri Vasudevachariar, and declared that, like Thyagaraja's, Sri Vasudevacharyar's kritis would live long after him in the whole of Southern India. Numerous organisations in the city offered garlands to Sri Vasudevachariar on behalf of their institutions.

Vedaratnam Gundavadhanigal, a fellow student of Sri Vasudevachariar, gave youthful reminicences of the famous composer-musician, and urged that like him musicians should combine sahitya and sangeeta, as otherwise the songs would tend to be rendered badly.

Sri K. Subrahmanyam, of Madras, Cine Producer and President of the Asoka Arts Academy, said that Sri Vasudevachariar was too great a man to be called about, but that things should come to him where he was, that he was a national asset whose well-being should be safe-guarded by the Government and public of Mysore.

An address was read and presented by Mr. Aswath, Secretary of the A. A. Academy.

Replying Sri Vasudevachariar thanked the speakers for their kind remarks towards him, and said that what he had been able to achieve was due to the grace of God, the benedictions of his gurus, and the support extended to him by the Maharajas of Mysore, and thanked the Ashoka Arts Academy for their pleasant function in his honour.

After some closing remarks from the Chair, the function concluded with the singing of the National Anthem.

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AND THE
YADAVA DYNASTY

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HICCUP

When a bride tried to say, "I will" in a Liverpool church, she began to hiccup. Then the bridegroom hiccuped, the parson hiccuped, and at least six members of the congregation hiccuped in sympathy !

The ceremony had to be postponed for ten minutes. Hiccups can be catching. A patient once began sustained hiccups in a Minnesota hospital, and seventeen others, including a nurse, were affected by evening. The doctors discovered a streptococcus infection.

Yet, usually, hiccups are the result of uncontrollable spasms down in the diaphragm, spasms independent of signals from the brain centres. When you inhale during these spasms, the epiglottis—snaps shut, producing the "hic."

Science has tracked nearly 300 methods of curing hiccups. They range from a solid thump on the back to spinning to the right nine times. You can sip a glass of water or sip from the far side of the glass. You can swallow salt water or gulp down Worcester sauce. The remedy is in reality a counter-irritant, and the water must be cold.

Shock treatment can be effective, and a dutiful Manchester son tried to cure his mother's hiccups by setting fire to the house. An Atalanta, Georgia, heiress suffering from the complaint, Juanite McMichom, risked a hair-raising dive from 15,000 feet in a stunt plane.

An Englishman suffering from a twelve-day hiccup was cured by xylocaine, a wonder drug rushed by air from Sweden. It has the effect of relieving pressure.

Often doctors try drug injections to quiet the nerves. Theodore Syvertson, of Pasadena, Calif, however, was plagued by hiccups for two years. He spent nine months in seven hospitals, consulted sixty doctors—and then one day was drinking water while bending from the waist. The hiccups ceased.

The contraption to cure all hiccups—or so it's claimed—has just been invented by a connecticut specialist. It looks like an electric chair and, to heighten the shock-terror, a black hood is slipped over the patient's head. Then a spotlight is flashed through the eye-holes, the chair rolls as if in a heavy sea and, finally, there's a real electric shock for the sustained hiccup. A boy who was hiccuping sixty times a minute is the chair's best success to date.

110 TO 150

In Russia there are 200 men and women between the ages of 110 and 150. Further investigation has revealed that nearly all are or have been bee-keepers and have made honey an important part of their diet.

Honey must be a very good food, for it is one of the finest sources of natural sugar. When Greek writer Plutarch came to early Britain, he was astounded by the health and energy of the natives and wrote, "These Britons only begin to grow old at 120 years of age." Roman writer Pliny the Elder wrote, "These Britons consume great quantities of honey brew." Early Phœnician explorers called Britain "The Isle of honey."

ಯಜುರುಪಾಕರ್ಮ	೦–೪–೦.
ಯಜುಸ್ಸಂಧ್ಯಾವಂದನೆ	೦–೪–೦.
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"ಜಿಕ್ಕದೇವರಾಜವಿಜಯಂ" ದಿವ್ಯಗ್ರಂಥದಮೇಲಿನ ಉಪನ್ಯಾಸಮಾಲೆ.	೦—೪—೦.
Life of Saint Anantarya. in English and Hindi.	1—0—0.

VALUED HUMAN BEINGS

Despite pressure from the Soviet-controlled regimes of Eastern Europe and even the threat of jail sentence, the peoples of the Iron Curtain countries are still telling jokes against the Communist regimes.

Typical of the jokes, many of them time-worn, now circulating is this one brought out by a recent escapee:

Members of the Hungarian National Orchestra asked their leader to explain the meaning of capitalism, socialism, communism and reaction.

"Well," the conductor says, "if someone comes in, enjoys himself, orders us to play for him, and finally puts a hundred-florin bill in my hand, then that is capitalism. If I agree to split the 100 florins with all of you equally, that is socialism. But if I retain the 100 florins for myself and give you nothing, that is communism. If you dare to open your mouths in protest,—that is reaction!"

Another favourite, though old, Iron Curtain joke details further the captive people's view of communism.

In Budapest, a citizen asks a party propagandist the difference between a capitalist and a Communist.

"That's easy," says the comrade. "The capitalist loves money above all else, while the Communist values the human being."

"I see," said the student. "That's why capitalists lock up their money, while the Communists lock up people!"

There are many indications that the people of the Soviet satellites are aware of how the USSR exploits their resources. A cartoon now being circulated shows a cow with its front quarters in Bulgaria and its hind quarters in the Soviet Union. The cow is being fed in Bulgaria, and milked in the USSR!

A Rumanian joke says that, according to the clauses of the trade agreement between the Rumanian Peoples' Republic and the USSR, the two parties have agreed to the following: "Rumania will give the Soviet Union wheat, and the Soviet Union, in return, will take Rumania's oil!"

QUEER NAMES

When a Los Angeles man fell through the ceiling of his office inspecting an attic he wanted to use as a store room, he was injured and taken to hospital.

A nurse asked his name and he replied. "Safety First." She did not believe him, but he continued to insist that that really was his name.

Still no one would believe him. In the end they checked up on his birth record and found he was telling the truth. They also found that he had a sister named June First!

Keep your eyes and ears open and you'll discover there are plenty of people with queer-sounding surnames in the world. A pretty London factory girl named Edith Halfnaked declared some years ago that she sometimes felt embarrassed about mentioning her odd surname to strangers.

She was a descendant in a direct line from a Norman baron named Walter de Halfnaked, who lived in Sussex in 1314 and who derived his surname from his manorial estate which in later years became known as Halnaker.

A London man who spent years "collecting" queer names as a hobby said he had come across an Oliver Chase Quick and a King Edward Horsenail.

The name of Rottenherring was once fairly common. For years one man who bore it ran a flourishing business as a fish-monger. There was Mr. Willburn who was in the coal trade, and a Mr. Startup who ran a motor garage.

In 1949 Mr. Henry McDermottroe, of Wrexham, claimed that "only two men in the world" own his name—his son and himself.

The Rationalist

A SURVEY

David Sarnoff, chairman of the Radio Corporation of America, looks backward at scientific achievements and forward to the progress which he believes will characterise the next 25 years.

Writing of "The Fabulous Future," he first recalls some of the developments of the past 100 years, a period that "compassed more technological achievement than the millennia that preceded."

Some of the most conspicuous inventions were electric light, power and communications; the radio; motor vehicles; mass production in industry; a knowledge of astronomy that has infinitely extended man's conception of the universe; and in biological and medical sciences, the germ theory of disease which has led to the conquest of man's worst scourges in the field of disease, and the discovery of anesthetics and antibiotics or "wonder drugs."

Sarnoff then brought his survey closer to the present by mentioning several of the leading developments of the last 25 years. These included television, nuclear energy, jet planes, pencillin and the new synthetic fabrics.

He believes that in the next 25 years the world will see "centuries of development telescoped into a brief span," and he also makes the following striking prediction: "The quantity of the new powers and products and processes at man's disposal is important; but even more important is the increasing speed at which these things have come. It is not a case of continued increase, but of continued acceleration of increase. We need only to project the curve into the future, to realize that we are merely on the threshold of the technological age."

Some of the developments of the next 25 years, according to Sarnoff, will include electronic lighting that will change the appearance of our homes, stores, factories, street and cities; nuclear power applied to the operation of factories and machines, including ships, locomotives, aircraft and automobiles; and atomic batteries that will provide electric current for years without recharging.

Other developments may be the practical use of power derived from the sun, tides and winds; new metals and fabrics: the extraction of salt from ocean water to irrigate vast desert regions; guided missiles for civilian use, such as transmission of mail; and pilotless aircraft.

In addition, we should see improved medical diagnosis and treatment that will greatly lengthen the present lifespan; electronic machines that will compute, remember and file information; automatic factory equipment that will select, test, check and handle raw materials and finished products; and practical ways of making available the oceans' wealth of chemicals and foods, in addition to the oil that is now being obtained from the ocean floor.

Such predictions coming from a less well-informed authority might seem exaggerated, but when a man of Sarnoff's reputation sees the possibility of such remarkable new developments, there is more than a possibility that they can be realised.

"The very fact that electronics and atomics are unfolding simultaneously is a portent of the amazing changes ahead," Sarnoff says. "Never before have two such mighty forces been unleashed at the same time. Together

they are certain to dwarf the industrial revolutions brought about by steam and electricity. There is no element of material progress we know today—in the biological and chemical fields, in atomics and electronics, in engineering and physics—that will not seem, from the vantage point of 1980, a fumbling prelude."

THE NEW WAY

Plans are complete for moving an entire Canadian town this summer a distance of thirty-three miles because melting frost turns the ground into a quagmire.

The new 600-acre site for Aklavik is on the bank of the Mackenzie River, some seventy miles south of the Arctic Ocean. All the summer population of 4,600 Eskimos and Indians will be moved lock, stock and barrel with their belongings by the Canadian Government.

Queer things sometimes happen when towns pack up and move. It was once reported that a town in South Dakota was nsanitary. So after consultation with the health authorities the town council decided to move the town to a more convenient site some miles away.

First building to be moved was a big hotel which was hauled from the old site to the new with the aid of 120 horses! The church followed, and eventually the rest of the town, including shops, houses and several minor public buildings.

Some towns are constantly moving around on wheels. Lake-side, in Western Australia, is composed almost entirely of 450 timber hewers and their families who live in rail-cars.

Their nomadic existence is bounded by railway lines, and the families move constantly up and down these routes in southern parts of the state where the jarrah timber forests are situated.

Forty-three years ago the spectacle of a town, Bulger, and its 200 residences being moved across the prairie to a new site eighteen miles away was witnessed in Larimer Country, Colorado.

Its buildings were placed on trucks and drawn carefully across the frozen prairie. They were set up again on the new foundations.

There was an urgent economic reason for shifting the village of Ebberitz, Germany, a few years ago. It was found that a coal seam fifty-two feet thick ran directly beneath the village. So the villagers completely dismantled their homes and reassembled them five miles farther down the road, in order that the coal could be mined!

£15000 HANDS

Pretty, dark-eyed Yvonne Sergent, of New York, boasts that she wears gloves more often than any other woman in the world. They are to protect her hands—which are her fortune. Miss Serjent is a hand model.

Her hands have become famous in magazine illustrations, newspaper advertisements, and on television, and are insured for £15,000! A prize-winning photograph of them hangs in the Museum of Modern Art in New York.

Recently a group of fellow models voted her "the girl with the most beautiful hands in the world." "I'd be helpless, I wouldn't be able to do any house-work, or have any fun."

Soap, water and cream are her only beauty aids. She manicures her own nails.

FAITHFUL WORK PAYS

Cynics who tell you that work well and faithfully done no longer pays in these hard times have again been proved wrong.

For a Ringwood (Hants) couple, Mr. and Mrs. Andrew O. G. Nicklen, have just been left a useful £10,000 in recognition of their faithful service for thirty years to three sisters. Mr. Nicklen worked for them as a chauffeur-gardener and his wife was their housekeeper. Their bequest was in the will of one of the sisters.

Employees are constantly being rewarded for devotion to duty. A woman who served a Surrey family for fifty years as a maid was left £30,000 a year or two ago by her titled employer.

Another maid who gave up her youth to care for her aged mistress in Yorkshire had her first hair-wave and beauty treatment in 1947 after hearing the news that she had been left £14,000.

At thirty-five she stepped from a £2-a-week position as maid-companion to comparative riches through her mistress's will. But during her fifteen years' service she had had to obey certain rules imposed by her slightly eccentric but kindly employer.

These laid it down that she should have "no followers," that there should be no radio, and that the house should be lit with oil lamps.

What is believed to be the largest bequest ever made to a housekeeper was announced eight years ago. An elderly Leeds widower left the whole of his £177,600 fortune to the efficient housekeeper who had devotedly served him for many years.

Attractive Lilian Field joined a Hartfordshire firm as a very junior typist when she was sixteen. She proved to be no clock-watcher, worked long hours, became very interested in the business and saw the firm double in size from a staff of 150 to 300.

Her chief died last year, leaving £97,607. In his will he promoted the faithful Miss Field (who had become secretary of the company) to the post of a director and made her the holder of 10,000 shares in the firm at the age of forty!

A DREAM ISLAND

A self-contained dream island where nobody would have to pay taxes and where life would be one round of pleasure is being planned by a group of Danes and Swedes.

They propose to establish it somewhere outside the territorial waters of Denmark and Sweden so that it would be independent of the Danish and Swedish authorities, and thus a law unto itself.

This dream island would be a kind of independent kingdom owing allegiance to no other country. It would have its own laws, its own currency and postage stamps, its own police force.

On the island would be a wonderful hotel with all modern amenities, a great restaurant, a dance hall and variety theatre, a gambling casino and a commercial radio and TV station.

Guests would be brought to the island by boat.

Promoters of the scheme say it would cost about £66,000 to establish this unique artificial island. All supplies—food, drinks, tobacco and so on—would be obtained from various countries.

The promoters realize that international permission would have to be obtained before a man-made island could be built, otherwise it might be regarded as an obstruction which would endanger shipping.

International jurists are now studying records to see whether there are any precedents for making an artificial island independent of neighbouring countries.

The promoters of the scheme hope to make a start on their dream island later this year. They estimate that it could be completed within two years.

The I. A. S. R.

The International Academy of Sanskrit Research has reason to believe that Sanskrit Culture embodies a full-blown and reigning civilisation of the past,

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INSTITUT HISTORIQUE ET HERALDIQUE DE FRANCE, FELLOW, MYSORE UNIVERSITY 1939-40.
EDITOR; TATURVEDA II VOLS, & RIGVEDA PADA; EDITOR "RATIONALIST".

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THE RATIONALIST

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for the intelligent man, devoted to a rationalistic survey of all matters of Public interest, in the economic, commercial, and literary fields.

Proprietor & Editor : G. R. JOSYER, M.A., F.R.E.S.

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THE WORLD OF STAMPS

One of the world's largest and most famous collections of stamps of the U.S.A. is that formed by Sir Nicholas Waterhouse, head of a firm of accountants in the City of London. The collection has been displayed at stamp exhibitions all over the world and has gained many awards.

Now this fine assembly of issues is to be broken up, and in a four-day sale at the end of June will be dispersed among many philatelists who, in the past, have gloried in the gems contained in the collection.

The Waterhouse collection is confined to issues made during the 19th century, and includes many rarities of the early period. The United States did not have stamps for general use until 1847, but during the few years before them, there were several issues by individual postmasters.

Among them were those of Millbury, Massachusetts, New York, and St. Louis, Missouri.

The "Millbury," as philatelists call it, is a great rarity, priced by Gibbons at Rs. 13,500, in a used condition. In the Waterhouse collection is a fine example still affixed to the letter on which it was used, and this is such a desirable item that the auctioners have placed a valuation of about Rs. 17,000 or more on it.

The issues of the St. Luis postmaster are known to collectors as "Bears," because the main feature of the design is the arms of St. Louis, in which two bears are the supporters of the shield.

There are three values: 5, 10 and 20 cents, all printed in black on tinted paper, and the highest is the rarest.

There was a great find of these stamps at Philadelphia in 1912, when 105 specimens were discovered on old letters which had been sent to a wastepaper merchant for pulping.

The proceeds of the find brought more than Rs. five lakhs to the lucky wastepaper man!

The first general issues of U.S.A. were two denominations; 5 cents brown, portraying Benjamin Franklin, and 10 cents black showing George Washington.

Sir Nicholas Waterhouse went for these first issues in a big way, and the collection contains over 60 of the lower value and 25 of the higher, some being in pairs and strips, used and unused, on letters and with a large variety of postmarks.

One particularly fine item in this group is an envelop bearing one of each denomination, lightly cancelled and in beautiful condition.

These first issues are, of course, imperforate. Although Henry Archer, who first applied perforation to stamps, was experimenting in 1847, it was not until 1854 that his suggestions were officially adopted, and the convenience of perforation did not cross the Atlantic to U.S.A. until 1857.

The perforated stamps in this collection include many blocks and strips, such as a used block of ten of the 1-cent and unused block of eight of the 12-cents.

But the most valuable pieces here are a block of four of the 5-cents brown with a red post-mark, which is expected to fetch about Rs. 1,500, and an unused block of six of the 90-cents which is almost as fresh as on the day it was printed.

Errors always attract collectors, and the 15 and 24 cents of the 1869 issue are no exception to that rule. Both these stamps with the centres inverted, and in used condition, are in the Waterhouse albums.

Even though the equally well-known 30-cents with inverted flags in the design is absent, there are several specimens of that value in normal state, including two on their original envelopes.

Nor does the collection end at the Governmental issues, for there is a fine showing of carriers' and local stamps. American "locals," which were used to pay fees charged for private delivery of mail in certain districts, present difficulties to most collectors outside the United States.

Large numbers of reprints and forgeries have been made and more than usual expert knowledge is necessary to sort the wheat from the chaff.

Sir Nicholas undoubtedly had that knowledge, and admitted none but unquestionably authentic examples to his albums, except to the volume devoted solely to spurious items—the reference collection.

Some of the genuine locals rarely come on the European market, and keen competition is expected for several lots in that section.

TALKING TO GOD

Is there a way whereby religion's power to shape events can be made effective? President Eisenhower believes there is. He set it forth before the Assembly of the World Council of Churches:

"How can we help to strike this spark of dedication in receptive hearts around the earth? By personal prayer by hundreds upon hundreds of millions. The goal should be nothing short of inviting every single person in every single country who believes in a Supreme Being to join in this mighty, intense act of faith. If this mass dedication launched an unending campaign for peace, supported by prayer, I am certain wondrous results would ensure."

This conviction of the U.S. President is backed up by the judgment of other leaders who, in times of great crisis, acknowledged their faith in prayer. When, in 1787, the threat of failure loomed over the Constitutional Convention, Benjamin Franklin called for daily prayers:

"I have lived, sir, a long lime; and the longer I live, the more convincing proofs I see that God governs in the affairs of men. We have been assured, sir, in the Sacred Writings, that 'except the Lord build the house, they labour in vain that build it'. I firmly believe this; and I also believe that, without His concurring aid, we shall succeed in this polical building no better than the builders of Babel."

With the fate of the Union at stake in his decisions, Abraham Lincold said: "I talk to God. My mind seems relieved when I do, and a way is suggested. I should be a self-conceited blockheard if I should hope to get along without the wisdom that comes from God and not from man."

"If prayers were not answered," says Dr. Buttrick in his book *Prayer*, "praying would long since have vanished in man's despair and pain."

"If praying did not produce results," said the late Rufus Jones, renowned Quaker philosopher, "it would soon be weeded out of the human race. It would shrivel like the functionless organ!"

In these times it is not prayer which has failed, but we who have failed to pray. Dr. Alexis Carrel believed that "prayer is our greatest source of power. "But," he added, "it is miserably undeveloped."

God does not "force His assistance on us," says Father James Keller, founder of The Christophers. "He leaves us free to take it or leave it. The key to the door is given in Jesus' words: 'Ask,' 'Seek,' 'Knock.'

"It is as clear, as simple as the story of the small boy struggling, mightily, to lift a heavy stone. He couldn't budge it. Happening to pass by, his father asked, 'Are you using all your strength?' 'Yes, I am,' said the boy impatiently. 'I don't think you are,' said the father. 'You haven't asked *me* to help!'

"The road to a just and lasting peace has some mighty big stones in it!"

The Rationalist

THINK BIG, PRAY BIG, BELIEVE BIG

Q Doctor Peale, you are a very busy man. How do you avoid getting tired?

By keeping busy. But being interested in everything. By trying to do some good, and by getting a lot of fun out of life. Certainly, I get a good, healthy tiredness. Then I go to bed and sleep. The next morning, I feel enthusiastic and ready to go again. One of my favourite Bible texts may explain my philosophy: "They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength. They shall mount up with wings as eagles: they shall run and not be weary; and they shall walk and not faint."

Q How can you believe in God when there is so much trouble in the world?

I find it easy to believe in God because there is so much overcoming of trouble in the world!

Q I become angry and say and do things which I regret. How can I control my temper?

The greatest cure for anger is delay. When anger rises, say nothing, do nothing, for as long as possible. The longer you delay response, the more certainly it will be under control. Practise keeping the voice down. It is very difficult to argue in a whiper. Talk yourself into being dispassionate. Anger, being hot, melts when you apply icy-cold rationality.

Q What do you think are the chief elements for making a success of life?

They are six: (1) Work. (2) Work. (3) Work. (4) Forget yourself. (5) Have a goal. (6) Get on with people.

Q What is a good formula for getting on with people?

Be yourself. Naturalness always has a winsome attractiveness. And develop a sincere liking for other people. Talk to them about themselves and not about yourself. Be easy to be with. Don't be sensitive. Treat everyone with esteem. Never wound an ego. Build people up. Bring out their best and they will love you for it.

Q What is the best way to promote tolerance among the various religions?

I do not like the word "tolerance," for it means only to tolerate. We must go beyond tolerance, to an attitude of understanding, cooperation and positive good-will. When you know a man, he invariably proves better than you imagined. Learn more about each others' religion. The more we join in action for the common good, the better we will feel towards one another, for comradeship draws people together. Ancient prejudices can be nipped at the roots by not passing them on to children. Speak only good about other religions to the future generation.

Q We had a discussion in our Sunday school as to whether there are unanswered prayers. What is your opinion?

No. There are no unanswered prayers. I believe that God answers all prayers in one of three ways: Yes. No. Wait. And the more faith we have, the more yes answers there will be.

Q Worry is my problem. My mind is filled with anxiety and fear. Will you please give me a few practical suggestions that might help?

The famous psychologist William James observed that the greatest discovery of his generation was that human beings could alter their lives by altering their attitudes of mind. Practise emptying your mind of all fears, frustrations, disappointments. Then "fill"

the mind with thoughts of courage, hope, happiness. Commit to memory all the Scripture passage which speak of courage and faith; for example, "If God be for us, who can be against us?" Decide to stop living on a basis of fear; live on the courage pattern. An inspiring old man advised me once: "Think big, pray big, believe big."

Q I have a great fear of death and what will come after it. Can you help me?

If you knew more about death you would not fear it so much. Doctors say death itself is not painful. Illness leading to death may cause suffering, but doctors and nurses report that, at the final moment, a great wave of peace seems to lift one into the next life! Apprehension about the unknown is the basis of much fear of death. Socrates said: "No evil can happen to a good man either in life or after death." Death is a natural process and refers only to the body. It is like casting aside a garment no longer useful. So, the secret is to build into your mind the calm faith of the 23rd Psalm: "Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for Thou art with me."

"GAANAVAAHINI"

The above monthly devoted to Karnatak Music has brought out a special issue in honour of Sri Sangeethashaatra Visharada Vasudevachariar. It contains appreciative messages from notable personages, Sris Rajagopalachari, Radhakrishnan, Ramanathaiya, and others. An interesting sketch of Sri Vasudevachar's successful career and achievements in the field of music, as well as a collection of his opinions on matters relating to present day music, and a sample kriti of his composition, embellish the journal.

Edited by Sai Ganakalasevasakta K. S. Chanrashekharayya from Mandya, the unique magazine deserves encouragement. Ed.

BOTTOM BOY

An eleven-year-old Leicester schoolboy is bottom of his class, but he can read people's minds. Blindfold, he can guess articles selected from a sack, numbers taken from the pages of a book, the shape and size of coins, bottles or boxes held up behind his head!

Now local researchers are studying his queer gift of second sight and world scientists are anxious for data on the extraordinary powers children sometimes have.

From New Zealand is reported the case of a thirteen-year-old girl who, when blindfold, can copy pictures she has never seen, . . . and even pictures concealed by a piece of cardboard.

Newark scientists, too, are puzzled by the powers of Jacob Kaplowitt. His mother happened to be writing a letter when she murmured, "I wonder what day May 15th is?" Her six-year-old son answered, while playing on the floor, "It's a Sunday!"

Sure enough, he knows the day of the week of any future date in the year, but questioners find that he stumbles if asked about any date more than fourteen months ahead. On the other hand, young Oskar Verhaeghe, a mathematical genius discovered in Belgium, can give an accurate answer within five seconds to back-dates of the last sixty years!

Canadian child specialists were astonished when they found that three-year-old William Donald had taught himself shorthand! The boy learned the alphabet by himself at eighteen months, and could read ten-letter words two months later!

What will become of these children? Some years ago Winifred Sackville Stonor gave lectures on Esperanto at the age of five, and at twelve could speak nine languages! When grown up, she inherited a fortune, but the authorities had to search through the United States before locating her. She appeared just long enough to claim her inheritance and then vanished again!

A HEREDITORY GIFT

When steeplejack Peter Jekubs slipped recently from a 100-ft. tower on which he was working at Baltimore, he caught his leg in a rope and hung head down for sixty-five minutes.

Firemen rushed to his aid with their tallest ladder. The cool-headed steeplejack chatted cheerfully to them as they climbed to him. But just as they were putting a safety-belt round his waist the rope suddenly snapped, and he spun 100 ft. to the ground, suffering multiple injuries, but escaping death.

In spite of the most modern safety precautions, the steeplejack's job remains one of the most perilous in the world. Most of the men are the sons and grandsons of steeplejacks and seem to have no sense of fear.

To be successful, a steeplejack must have fingers and muscles of steel, and no nerves to speak of. Mr. Will Larkins, member of a famous family of them, once nearly fell from the top of the Nelson Column in Trafalgar Square, owing to his feet slipping on an inch-thick layer of greasy soot with which the platform supporting the statue was covered.

He only managed to save himself—he was lying on his back at the time—by using his elbows as brakes.

Lightning once damaged the steeple of a church in Derbyshire. The vicar and churchwardens were so grateful to a local steeplejack when he had finished repairing it that they presented him with a new suit of clothes in addition to his fee.

Celebrating his success that night, the steeplejack declared that in the morning he would don the new clothes on top of the spire. A great crowd watched him stand on a tiny scaffold and loop a rope over one arm of the cross. Then he climbed on to it, and put on the presentation suit, throwing each discarded garment into the air.

Suddenly he clasped his arms frantically round the cross. The rope he needed to regain the ground had slipped and lay on the platform a dozen feet below! The crowd gasped with horror.

Then somebody remembered the steeplejack's daughter, a pretty eighteen-year-old "steeplejill." She was found, and her fair hair fluttering in the breeze, she climbed higher and higher until at last she reached the platform. She had never mounted so high before.

After three attempts she managed to throw up the rope to him—and so saved his life!

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MIRROR TO HEALTH

Monsieur Henri, well-known New York hairdresser, is famous not only for his skill with hairdressing, perms, and trims, but for his uncanny gift of being able to tell people's secrets by their hair.

At the beginning of his career he was employed in a ladies' hairdressing establishment where he soon learned to tell if the woman who sat in the chair was a drug-addict, an alcoholic, or on the edge of a nervous breakdown.

All that, he says, is revealed by the client's hair.

Drugs affect hair-roots in a peculiar way, it would seem. The moment the drug-addict's hair is wet, it gives off a most offensive odour.

The alcoholic, too, is revealed by her hair. No perm will "take" on it. The hair straightens out again immediately after it is combed, even if the curlers have been left twice the normal length of time in the hair, and the head has remained under the dryer until it is quite dry.

Monsieur Henry believes that when a woman is under prolonged nervous strain, her hair fails to respond to treatment in the same way as the alcoholic's although perhaps the picture is not quite so bad.

"There is a difference hard to explain, but you recognise it when you are working all the time on hair. You also notice other signs of tension. The client cannot relax; she is all on edge."

"A thing that is not often known," says Monsieur Henri, "is that ether causes the hair to fall out. Sometimes the trouble can be arrested, sometimes not."

"It depends on many factors. A doctor can sometimes be too kind in alleviating pain, and by giving a patient too much ether he may do permanent injury to her hair."

Monsieur Henri believes a lot more about people's health and temperament might be revealed by their hair if greater study were given to the subject. "Hair is a mirror to health," he says.

INURING YOURSELF

Rex Ambler, aged fifteen, of Knowle Park Common, Kent, is toughening himself to become a Polar explorer. He spends his money on Polar kit and pemmican (dried meat mixture), and during the recent cold spell went to school without underclothes or a sweater.

You can inure yourself, to most things.

A Polar explorer once asked some American Indians who went without clothes in the snow, how they stood it. The Indians pointed out that his face was uncovered. "But that's my face," protested the explorer.

"Me all face," explained the Indian chief!

"THE RATIONALIST."

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LOSSES IN LIBRARIES

Stocktaking at a Sussex public library has revealed that 10,000 books have vanished from the library in twenty-five years. These include a quarter of the fiction books catalogued there. And the librarian declares that nearly all of them have undoubtedly been stolen.

Book thieves are busiest in winter. Public libraries always suffer a great deal. Valuable text-books on radio, chemical research and engineering constantly disappear. In one North of England library 47,556 books were listed as missing! In a small Cornish town 1,000 were "lost." Book thefts all over Britain are three or four times the 1939 figures.

Thieves constantly raid the secondhand bookshops in large towns and cities. One London bookshop estimates its total annual loss of books through theft at more than £2,000. Rare editions snatched by thieves are often smuggled away to the Continent.

An ex-City of London detective who studied for years the methods of book thieves used to get back about £3,000 worth of stolen books every year.

His usual practice, when he caught a new thief, was to make him sign a pledge that he would never steal another book. He collected hundreds of these written promises. If the thief got tough, he would prosecute him.

Some book thieves, he found, used poacher-pockets in their over-coats to carry off their booty. One had a suitcase with a false bottom. He used to put it over a book and when he lifted the case the book had gone.

Champion book-thief of all time was a man whose job was to inspect libraries in France. During his visits of inspection he contrived to get away with so many rare books that he netted a fortune of £40,000 by the sale of his plunder!

Finally, he was suspected by one librarian and a warrant for his arrest was issued. He escaped to Britain and lived comfortably but obscurely here for twenty years on the proceeds of his thefts.

A COMPARISON

The Swedes are the biggest coffee drinkers in the world—because coffee drinkers are supposed to live the longest.

It all started during the 1700s when King Gustav III used two murderers to settle a harsh argument then raging through Sweden, i.e., were coffee and tea injurious to health?

At that time twin brothers had been condemned to death for murder, but Gustav commuted the sentences to imprisonment for life —on condition that the one brother drank nothing but tea and the other nothing but coffee.

The brothers lived on. Neither showed any signs of being harmed by his beverage, until one died at the age of eighty-three. He was the tea drinker. The other lived another year. So the Swedes were satisfied that coffee was the safer drink, and ever since they have consumed more coffee than any nation of comparable size!

ಯಜುರುಪಾಕರ್ಮ ೦—೪—೦.

ಯಜುಸ್ಸಂಧ್ಯಾವಂದನೆ ೦—೪—೦.

ವಿಶಿಷ್ಟಾದ್ವೈತಸಾರ

"ಚಿಕ್ಕದೇವರಾಜವಿನ್ನಪಂ" ದಿವ್ಯಗ್ರಂಥದಮೇಲಿನ ಉಪನ್ಯಾಸಮಾಲೆ. ೧—೪—೦.

Life of Saint Anantarya.
in English and Hindi. 1—0—0.

The Rationalist

VALUE OF SILENCE

Forty-two years ago Monica Baldwin went into a convent and in 1941, after twenty-eight years as a nun, she rejoined the world. In a BBC talk she said of her return, "What completely took my breath away was the shattering contrast between the slow-moving world of peace and silence that I had left behind me and the world of hurry, conflict and noise into which I had emerged. I don't believe anyone who has not actually undergone that experience can have any idea of the shock that I received." The noise of London's traffic over-whelmed her but she was even more distressed by the psychic atmosphere, generated by many thousands of agitated persons, almost all of whom appeared to her to be more or less disturbed within themselves.

In most events generations of nuns had preserved in a sustained effort to build up the atmosphere of silence in which their consecrated lives were spent. The Rule prohibited talking during most of the day, but the Mistress of Novices constantly instilled into them the necessity of training themselves to do nothing to disturb the silence of their cloistered life, never to raise their voices, to walk on the tips of their toes and to make sure that even their smallest movements were quiet and deliberate.

"If one were only laying down a pair of scissors on the work-room table, or turning the pages of an office-book in choir, it had to be done without a sound," she said. There was the far more complicated art of interior silence to be acquired too, for it was an integral part of the life they had embraced and without it there could be no deep or genuine spiritual fragrance, had ended by saturating the convent from cellar to roof," she said. "Even the air seemed to hold something of that breathless hush of adoration which emanates from those whose lives are spent in perpetual consciousness of the presence of God." Silence also had other aspects. Dr. Max Picard, the Swiss philosopher, had pointed out that instead of being something negative that came into being only when talking ceased, silence was intensely positive, a creating, healing, fullness that held in itself the beginning and end of all things. "One cannot help observing how people whose characters have their roots planted deep down in silence, possess a peace, a strength, a happiness unknown to those who have never really achieved an escape from noise," said Monica Baldwin. It seemed to her that people now a days disliked silence because their outlook was becoming more and more materialistic and the world of silence to which the mysteries of the Christian faith belong repelled them. There was a close connection between reverence and silence and it was possible to catch a glimpse of this swift reaction and silent wonder when human beings were brought face to face with the more solemn mysteries of Life. "But you see it most strikingly before the greatest mystery of all: the supreme mystery of God," she said. She thought this instinctive reverence and silent wonder were noticeably lacking in modern children, and remembered the wise and enlightened Reverend Mother who declared that any decline in the spirit of reverence in a community was a disaster of the first magnitude, for the devil *was* the devil simply because he entirely lacked reverence.

If silence were banished from people's lives they would become increasingly superficial, "because silence, the mother nurse of any thought that is worth while, must be the deep earth in which those thoughts are rooted." Silence was now viewed as something wholly unimportant little more than a 'technical hitch' in the everlasting flood of noice. "To-day one hears much about the godlessness of the people in this country. But if silence—which is so closely connected with the world of spirit—could be brought back to us, might it not be, perhaps, one step at least towards the beginning of a return to God?" she asked.

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN ON DEATH

A man is not completely born until he is dead. Why then should we grieve that a new child is born among the immortals? We are spirits. That bodies should be lent us, while they can afford us pleasure, assist us in acquiring knowledge or in doing good to our fellow creatures, is a kind and benevolent act of God. When they become unfit for these purposes and afford us pain instead of pleasure, instead of an aid become an encumbrance, it is equally kind and benevolent that a way is provided by which we may get rid of them. Death is that way.

Our friend and we were invited abroad on a party of pleasure which is to last for ever. His chair was ready first and he is gone before us. We could not all conveniently start together; and why should you and I be grieved at this, since we are soon to follow and know where to find him?

IN POLYNESIA

At a Banquet given by a native king in Samoa for Dr. Victor Heiser, eminent authority on public health, the moment came for the tribute to the guest of honour, but His Majesty still squatted at the feast, while a professional orator made a speech about Dr. Heiser. When he ended, the doctor moved to rise, but the King restrained him: "Don't get up; I have provided an orator for you. In Polynesia we don't believe that public speaking should be engaged in by amateurs!"

BISMARCK ON SMOKING

Bismarck was one of the greatest friends tobacco ever had. When Jules Favre visited him to discuss terms of peace after the Franco-Prussian War, the Iron Chancellor asked the Frenchman if he smoked, and offered him a cigar. Favre said he did not smoke. Then Bismarck made his deathless defence of smoking:

"Then you are wrong! When a man begins a discussion which may easily lead to heated argument, or even a show of temper, it is always better to smoke while one is talking. You see, a cigar held in the hand and nursed with care serves, in a measure, to keep our gestures under control. It is a sort of diversion: as the blue smoke curls upwards the eye involuntarily follows it; the effect is soothing, one feels better tempered, and more inclined to make concessions—and to be continually making concessions is what we diplomats live on! It is true that you, as a non-smoker, have one advantage over me—you are more watchful and observant; on the other hand, you are more apt to be guided by the impulse of the moment."

12 FEET LONG HAIR

Will women begin to grow their hair longer in 1955? Many students of hair fashions predict so. One goes so far as to say that we may see a return to the long-hair fashion of Victorian days.

When mezzo-soprano Blanche Thebom, who is the proud owner of the longest long hair in show business, sang Carmen in Detroit a little while ago, she had to wear a wig specially made to conceal her tresses.

Her height is 5ft. 6½in., and her hair is 11½in. longer than she is tall. When she shampoos it, this pretty singer has to kneel beside the bath-tub.

She was once playing Mignon, wearing her hair loose. During one scene Mignon has to faint. The tenor must revive her and help her to her feet.

The tenor at this performance accidentally knelt on Miss Thebom's hair and started to pull her up without getting off. "Please get off my hair," muttered the owner, hoarsely, "or I shan't be able to stand up." He did so and nobody in the audience knew what had happened.

The longest-ever head of hair is believed to be that grown by a Polish peasant woman in the eighteenth century. It only stopped growing after the woman's fifty-second birthday when it had reached a length of 12ft. 1in.

For convenience the woman kept the hair closely matted together and looped up behind her. For a long time she feared she would die if it were cut, but she was ultimately persuaded to part with it. The hair was considered such a curiosity that it was sent to be permanently exhibited in Dresden.

HER WISH

A woman in the midst of divorce proceedings was complaining to a friend about the boring conferences she had to endure with lawyers.

"Oh," said her friend, "don't talk to me about them. I've had so much trouble over my property that sometimes I wish my husband hadn't died."

HIS SORROW

"Good Heavens! How terrible!" cried the professor as he finished reading the note left behind by his daughter who had run away.

"Why, whatever's the matter, dear?" asked his wife.

The professor handed her the letter.

"So she's eloped with that officer," was the wife's calm comment. "Well, I can't say it's a complete surprise."

"But she's spelled 'eloped' with two L's!"

THE TEACHER

"Now, boys," said the teacher, "always remember that you should never end a sentence with the word 'with.' That is," he went on hurriedly, "unless you have nothing else to end it with."

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HISTORY IN MOUNDS

Nevasa (19 degrees 34' N. latitude and 75 degrees East longitude) is a small taluka town in Ahmadnagar District of the State of Bombay. It is situated on the southern bank of the Pravara river.

Just overlooking the river and extending over two to three furlongs southward is a mound over 70 feet in height.

Here excavations were conducted by the Deccan College under the auspices of the University of Poona for over three months (November 54 to March 1, 1955) with a token grant from the State of Bombay.

A square 45 feet by 45 feet was selected for the season's work, and dug out completely upto the natural earth.

The occupation debris are nearly 30 feet thick. These are divisible into 12 to 13 earth layers and can be grouped into four or five phases, which give a cultural history of the site for more than 3000 years.

This is of more than local, or regional importance as will be seen from the summary given below.

The five cultural phases are as follows:—

During the first phase civilised man came and settled on the black soil. He lived in houses (huts) which were presumably square or rectangular as suggested by the alignment of port-holes, some of which still retain the undressed timber (actual trunks of trees).

The flours of these huts were well-made, either by mixing lime with river gravel, or by using burnt black soil and lime. Several hearths dug into the black soil indicate that the lime was made on the spot.

For most of their daily needs these "Black Soil People" used microliths of chalcedony. These were made after a special method called "The crested Ridge and Ripple-marked Core Technique."

The industry includes flaked, ripple-marked cores, crested ridge flakes, penknife-serrated, two-and-one-edged, parallel sided blades, triangles, trapeze, crescents and a few scrapers.

Besides the microliths, polished stone axes of trap, with pointed butt and lenticular section, perfectly round sling stones of quartz and hammer stones of trap and quartz were also used.

Both the microliths and polished stone axes were made on the spot, as small regular workshops containing all the articles mentioned above, besides flat querns and boat-shaped grinding stones of sand-stone, were found in them.

Excepting huge storage jars and burial urns, the rest of the pottery was painted, usually in black over a fine red, but sometimes over a dark chocolate surface as well. This is generally wheel-made, thin, with a red slip on both sides and very well-fired.

Among the shapes, the most common are bowls with concave rim and rounded base, a graded series of spouted vessels with high flaring rim, angular shoulder, rounded base, and long side spouts or drinking tubes painted along their length or at the edge.

The designs on the pots are geometric and extremely limited in variety, consisting of hatched squares, triangles, rhomboids, intersecting or angular lines, or lines obliquely drawn.

This monotony is relieved by a single sherd, found near Urns Burial III, on which is painted, in black, a faithful life-like representation of a dog, or dog-like animal.

Unfortunately the front part of this artistically drawn animal is missing.

A few beads—of carnelion, chalcedony, bloodstone, falence and steatite, the last of tubular and segmented variety—give some idea of the ornaments of the period. A copper or bronze bead, hook and chisel suggest that this metal was known.

The dead, generally children, were buried after partial cremation in burial urns, which seem to be handmade, though well polished by salt-glaze technique.

The process of burial seems to be as follows. After partial cremation or exposure of the body, the various limbs of the body were macerated and inserted in an urn with wide mouth and flaring rim, the skull fragments being placed first. Over these were put jaw, ribs and so on.

In one urn the half of a skull was kept in a small bowl. This urn was then filled up with earth.

The urn was then covered by another urn, placed upside down and which was slightly smaller than the former. A few bones were kept in it, and filled up similarly with earth.

Both these urns were then laid horizontally in north-south direction.

The second phase is the earliest historical period. Almost everywhere in the whole square, the white chunam (lime) and hemp flooring of this phase sealed off the debris of the proto-historic phase.

This feature is of great help in determining the character of both the periods as well as their relationship. Though a few pot-sherds of the earlier phase (I) do appear in the debris of Phase II, there is no real over-lap between the two cultures.

The occupants of the Phase II came and lived on the tell or mound left by the inhabitants of Phase I. Houses in this period were made as before with uncut timber, and seem to be square or rectangular in plan.

But they differ from the earlier phase in this, that bricks were now used for flooring, walls and wells and the roofs were covered by large tiles, which were kept in position with iron nails by fixing them on to the rafters through specially made holes in the tiles.

General use of iron is also suggested by the occurrence of sickles, axe, plough-share, leaf-shaped daggers or spear-heads. The pottery is quite distinct from that of Phase I.

The most common is ordinary red ware, while the specialised or characteristic ware of the period is black-and-red. Of the famous NBP only one sherd was found at this level.

Numerous coins of potin, lead and copper of the Andhra or satavahana kings help to date this phase to a period between the third B.C. century to 1st century A.D.

The third is indeed a later phase of the preceding one, and not quite a different one. The most important feature of this phase is the gradual disappearance of the black-and-red ware, and the emergence of fine red polished ware with sherds of the imported Mediterranean amphora.

The occurrence of the latter definitely indicates trade with the Roman world, and the effect is reflected in the construction of houses, which are now built on extremely well-laid foundation.

Among the red polished ware, it appears that a few sherds are of definitely Samian ware. The Roman contact is also suggested by the presence of a fine, translucent, light blue glass bangle and bead.

Other features of the culture including Satavahana coins, continue as before. With a view to distinguishing it from the preceding ones, this cultural phase is called Indo-Roman or Roman Satavahana.

The fourth phase was short. It is characterised by the presence of fine art objects, one small Kaolin head of a boy called the 'Smiling Boy of Nevasa,' and a minutely carved Nandi, also in terracotta, and covered with red slip.

From the point of view of the culture of the period, the important thing to note is the existence of a cottage industry for turning out shell bangles.

(Continued on page 5.)

The Rationalist

ON SANSKRIT

The policy of the Mysore Goverment with regard to the revival of Sanskrit was explained by Mr. A. G. Ramachandra Rao, Minister for Education with the Government of Mysore, last week, presiding over the "Samskruthotsava" (Sanskrit Festival) organised by the Students' Association of the Maharaja's Sanskrit College, Mysore, in their premises.

A large number of pandits and other distinguished invitees were present on the occasion. The proceedings were mostly in Sanskrit.

After invocation by Mr. H. Venkatesaiah, "Swagatha Padyamala" was recited by Vidwan Venkatanarasimhachar.

Sri T. G. Siddapparadhya, M.A., Principal of the College, welcoming the Minister and others, said that steps should be taken by the authorities to introduce Sanskrit as a subject of study compulsorily in all schools in the State.

The students of the College participated in a debate organised for the occasion. There was also "Vakyartha". Vidwan S. M. Srinivasavaradachar and Vidwan K. Lakshmikantha Jyengar participated.

Panditharathnam M. S. Venkatesa Sastry spoke on the greatness and individuality of Sanskrit. He traced the origin of the Sanskrit language to the time of the Vedas. He said Pandits had not been able to fix the time of the birth of the great language. He said that Sanskrit was a very rigid language and did not admit any intrusion or changes. If any alien word was used in Sanskrit it immediately became "apaswara". The languages which had come up later on, namely, Tamil, Kannada, Telugu, Malayalam, etc., contained many words of Sanskrit. Sanskrit had been neglected because there was no encouragement to that language. He appealed to the Government to give as much encouragement to Sanskrit pandits as possible and thus revive the language by starting as many *patasalas* as possible.

Mr. Ramachandra Rao, Minister, in his presidential address, said that Sanskrit was unique for its richness. It was a universal language.

The Education Minister said he did not agree with Panditharathna Venkatesha Sastry when he said that Sanskrit language had been uncared for or neglected. He said that it was the desire of the Mysore Government to revive Sanskrit and spread that language as much as possible in the State. The Educational Reforms Committee had kept this in view and had made recommendations accordingly. In primary and other schools in the State, "Amarakosa" would be taught to children. It had also been decided to introduce Sanskritic elements in Kannada language so that the benefit of Sanskrit culture (Sumskruthi) might reach the pupils. The Mysore Government, within the limits of their financial resources, were eager to raise the status of Sanskrit pandits and other pandits of other languages to those of the teachers in English. He assured them that every effort was being made to spread and give Sanskrit language its due place in the system of education.

The Education Minister added that there were vast treasures of knowledge in the Sanskrit literature. But the knowledge contained in those valuable books could be understood only by pandits of Sanskrit and not by other people. Therefore they had a great responsibility. They should make available

the useful information in the Sanskrit literature to the other people also. For doing this it was necessary, the Minister said, that the pandits should learn other languages and translate the Sanskrit works in those languages. Any suggestion from them in this connection, he said, would receive the earnest attention of the Government.

Later, the students of the college staged two Sanskrit dramas "Madhyamavyayoga" and "Doothaghatotgaja", both written by Bhasa and one Kannada drama.

(*Continued from page 3.*)

This is the last phase, and is notable for the fine polycrome glass bangles which were also made on the spot.

The chronology of four of the phases can be settled with the help of associated coins, pottery and other characteristic finds.

That of the first, however, rests largely on its stratographical position and the cultural affinity it exhibits with the Polished Stone Axe Culture of Brahmagiri in Mysore and with certain elements like the Microlithic Blade industry of the Navda Toli on the Narmada in Central India.

In this lies the importance of the work done at Nevasa this season. The Nevasa Chalcolithic Culture may be dated on this ground, and from the fact that its debris are nearly eight feet thick as at Brahmagiri—to about 1,000 B.C.

Further this is not a solitary instance of the type in the Deccan. The Deccan College Research Institute's excavations (1950-51) have brought to light the remains of an identical culture at Nasic and Jorwe, whereas explorations have revealed a chain of such sites in the Godavari-Pravara basin.

This basin may then be one of the main foci of the chalcolithic culture, south of the Vindhyas, of which Brahmagiri I might be an outline, whereas another focus may be in the Narmada Valley.

Phases II and III are best dated by the occurrence of the Satavahana coins and the Roman Amphora and probably Samian ware to a period between 150 B.C—50 A.D. or later.

The remarkable fact here is the appearance of the imported Mediterranean amphora so far inland in Western India.

It must have been carried thither very probably from Broach via Junnar on its way to Paithan. And in return Nevasa might have sent its cotton, in the first instance to Paithan for turning it into muslin, as it does even now.

This contact with Paithan and in a sense with the heart of the old Satavahana Empire (of which the present Hyderabad State in a sense forms the core) was maintained in the subsequent phase too, as is attested by the Smiling Boy's head. Similar, though not so beautiful, figures in the round were found from the excavations at Kondapur.

Phase V is also dated with the help of the coins to the Bahmani period and the glass bangle industry at that time also confirms it, as it was one of the cultural features of the age, as so well attested by excavations at Kolhapur.

An interesting feature of this culture sequence is that it can be taken back up to the Palaeolithic Period, with but one break.

Below the surface black soil on which the Chalcolithic Culture flourished, there is a sterile layer of brownish-reddish sandy silt, about 20 feet in thickness. Neither observation of several sections of this layer nor its partial excavation have yielded any artifacts.

So it has got to be inferred that there was no human occupation during the formation of this sandy silt. But it appears to be the last phase of the aggradation of the river, as it rests on three strata of gravel.

The lowest of these gravel layers is distinctly more pebbly than the upper two, which show increasingly finer type of gravel and sand. These gravel beds contain two types of lithic industries.

The one—and probably the earlier—is the hand axe industry on trap rock. It is typologically Acheulian, though a more precise age may be later assigned to it when the five animal fossils associated with it, including two jaw pieces, are identified.

The second lithic industry is both materially and typologically different. Its real horizon seems to be the upper and middle gravel beds, though occasionally a few tools are also found in the lowest bed.

The industry consists of comparatively small cores, flakes, scrappers, blades and burins of jasper, carnelian and such fine-grained stone.

Nevasa thus provides a fairly complete sequence of cultures—the two stages of Palaeolithic, the Neolithic-Chalcolithic, early historical, Roman-Satavahana and the early Muslim (Bahmani).

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TOURISTS LIKE COLOUR

Life this summer is going to be much more colourful for the residents of a litlle Dutch village—and for tourists who visit it.

For the local council recently decided to pay forty per cent. of the cost of the clothes weich the villagers wear in public in summer. Why? Because tourists like colour and gaiety, and this novel clothes subsidy will encourage the men, women and children of the village to wear traditional fisherfolk costume which is dearer than modern dress.

This news from Holland reminds me of what happened when Rufus Barlow, an eccentric American, decided to brighten up the somewhat drab clothes of the eighteen peasants, who worked on a farm in France which he bought some years before the war.

In his will he bequeathed to each farmhand 10,000 francs if he wore, for a whole year, while doing his daily job, traditional and fancy costumes which Barlow had collected during his years of globe-trotting.

The peasants weren't happy about wearing the costumes, but the money proved irresistible. So passers-by were startled later to see a Chinese mandarian tending vegetables, an Hawaiian hula dancer operating a plough, a man dressed like a Russian cossack guarding sheep, a maharajah milking cows, a Scottish Highlander feeding pigs and so on.

ಯಜುರುಪಾಕರ್ಮ ೦–೪–೦.

ಯಜುಸ್ಸಂಧ್ಯಾವಂದನೆ ೦–೪–೦.

ವಿಶಿಷ್ಟಾದ್ವೈತಸಾರ

"ಚಿಕ್ಕದೇವರಾಜವಿನ್ನಪಂ" ದಿವ್ಯಗ್ರಂಥದಮೇಲಿನ ಉಪನ್ಯಾಸಮಾಲೆ. ೧–೪–೦.

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MEMBER, ROYAL SOCIETY OF LITERATURE, ET. BRR., HON. MEMBER AND MEDALIST, INSTITUT HISTORIQUE ET HERALDIQUE DE FRANCE; FELLOW, MYSORE UNIVERSITY 1936-39. AUTHOR: YAJURVEDA II VOLS. & RIGVEDA PADA; EDITOR "RATIONALIST."

"Looking at one page I thought it must be a man of 70 to possess all that wisdom; looking at another I told myself that virile vigour of expression shows him to be a man at the prime of life; and looking at still another I thought that only a boy of twenty-one could be so absolutely sure about anything! Which is right? Why don't authors put their pictures in their books so that one might turn to the pages when puzzled?"

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THE RATIONALIST

A Weekly

for the intelligent man, devoted to a rationalistic survey of all matters of Public interest, in the economic, commercial, and literary fields.

Proprietor & Editor : G. R. JOSYER, M.A., F.R.E.S.

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READY WIT

The most devastating of all those who knew how to deal with hecklers was, undoubtedly, Lloyd George.

I was once at a huge meeting when Home Rule for Ireland was a dominant election issue. L. G. said: "I believe in Home Rule for Ireland, Home Rule for Scotland, Home Rule for Wales—"

"Home Rule for Hell," shouted an irate member of the audience. Lloyd George stopped, and then snapped: "That's right, my man. Everybody should stand up for his own country!"

On another occasion a man who had obviously "had a few", interrupted to his discomfiture. L. G. had been talking about the policy of his party. "What we want," shouted the man, "is a change of government." The speaker looked in his direction and snapped: "What you want, my friend, is a change of drink!"

At one meeting he had been recounting the achievements of the government of which he was a member. He went on: "I have lived long enough—"

"Hear, hear," croaked a solemn-looking little man in the second row. Lloyd George stared at him for a moment but did not reply to the interjection. After the meeting I told him I was surprised he did not hand the man something to think about. "Poor little fellow," he said. "I had an answer on the tip of my tongue; but I thought that perhaps he was an undertaker with little work and hoped for a job then!"

The incomparable Winston was another who was always ready for the heckler. And how he scored off him! I think that the best snap of his that I ever heard was at a meeting when a man interjected now and again with, "Rot—all rot." He allowed this a few times and then finished it by saying to the delight of the audience: "I am bound to say, sir, that you are very frank. You have told us several times exactly what is in your mind!"

Lord Birkenhead—when he was F. E. Smith—was deadly at his job. At one meeting held when the "tax on food" was a battle cry, a member of the audience shouted several times in an irritating voice: "We will have no tax on food." Said the Speaker: "Don't worry, my man, you would not be affected by it. No government would put a tax on *your* food—thistles!"

Many women candidates are very nimble-witted. Like the one who, when asked by a heckler, "Wouldn't you like to be a man?" said, with quiet dignity. "Yes, I would. Wouldn't you?"

"We want widows' pensions!" a man kept shouting long before that reform was introduced. He made himself something of a nuisance. "Why do you worry?" asked the speaker. "You'll never have one in any event". Added a supporter in the audience: "No, but his wife will be entitled to one soon if he don't shut up."

I was once on a platform with the tall, dignified Dr. Macnamara ("Fighting Mac" as he was called) when he was Minister of Labour. It was a rather noisy little meeting held in a village hall. Two men rose at the same time and shouted questions. Neither would give way to the other. "Now," said Mac in his most bland way, "one at a time. We can't have a couple of silly asses braying at the same time."

They both sat down and one said: "Fair enough, mister, you go ahead!"

To turn again to Sir Winston, he was once told by a persistent heckler: "If you was the ruddy member for Heaven I wouldn't vote for you." In measured language, the orator answered: "Indeed! If I ever have the

honour of representing that celestial constituency—which is unlikely—I am quite sure your name would not be on the electoral roll." That silenced him!

"Be quiet," said a labour candidate to a fellow who made a nuisance of himself. "I am trying to get some sense into your head." The man asked: "Tell me, what is your occupation?" The candidate gave a splendid answer. "For the moment. I am a wood-carver—so far as you are concerned!"

Apart from the heckler there is often a great deal of fun to enliven election meetings. For example, a young aspirant for Parliamentary honours had speeches prepared for him by a friend. The candidate stuck closely to his manuscript—once too closely, for after a moving passage he read: "Here blow your nose, wait for the applause, and take a drink of water!"

Another with similar lack of experience—but full of reforming zeal and ready to promise anything—was asked by an interrupter:

"Would you abolish the Decalogue?" Came the quick answer:

"Of course I would. I am all in favour of doing so". In the thunderous roar of laughter that followed, he whispered to the chairman: "What have I done now?" And he was told, "Oh, nothing much. You have only promised to abolish the Ten Commandments!"

X.

SET TO MUSIC

One of the first things an Iowa dentist asks patients who come to him to have teeth attended to is: "What's your favourite piece of music?"

The surprised patients tell him. A little later, when the time comes for the dentist to work on the teeth, his assistant switches on a gramophone and plays a record of the chosen music.

It's a new idea to help dental patients relax. The dentist says it is working well. He has a wonderful collection of records, bought over many years, and can supply practically any music his patients ask for.

Jazz is out, for no sufferer from toothache has yet asked for a jazz tune to be played while he is under the drill. Many of them ask for Strauss waltzes. The dentist has found that patients are much less apprehensive of his activities while listening to Mozart, Handel, Bach and Beethoven.

"The music has proved quite a draw," he says.

ಶ್ರೀ ಚಾಮುಂಡೇಶ್ವರಿ ಭವನ್

ಇಲವಾಲದ ರಸ್ತೆ, ಮೈಸೂರು.

ಇಂದಿನಿಂದ ಹೊಸ ನಮೂನೆಯ ಕೌಂಟರ್ ಮಾದರಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ತಿಂಡಿ ಸಪ್ಲೈಮಾಡಲಾಗುವುದು

ಕಾಲ: ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 6 ಗಂಟೆಯಿಂದ 11 ರ ವರೆಗೆ ಮತ್ತು ಸಂಜೆ 3 ರಿಂದ 8 ರ ವರೆಗೆ.

ಕೌಂಟರ್ ರೀತಿಯ ಸೆಲ್ಫ್ ಸರ್ವಿಸ್ ನಮೂನೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ತಿಂಡಿ ಪದಾರ್ಥಗಳನ್ನು ಸಪ್ಲೈ ಮಾಡಲಾಗುವುದು. ತಿಂಡಿ ಪದಾರ್ಥಗಳ ಬೆಲೆಯನ್ನು ಕಡಿಮೆಮಾಡಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಪ್ರತಿಯೊಂದು ಪದಾರ್ಥವೂ ಬಹಳ ಶುಚಿಯಾಗಿಯೂ, ರುಚಿಕರವಾಗಿಯೂ ಇರುತ್ತದೆ. ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕರು ಪರೀಕ್ಷಿಸಬಹುದು.

ವಿ. ಸೂ.:— ಪ್ರತಿಯೊಬ್ಬ ಗಿರಾಕಿಯೂ ಕೌಂಟರ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಟಿಕೆಟ್ ಹೊಂದಿ ತಾವೇ ಸ್ವತಃ ತಿಂಡಿ ಪಡೆದು ಟೇಬಲಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಕುಳಿತು ಫಲಹಾರ ಪೆಗೆದುಕೊಳ್ಳಬಹುದು.

The Rationalist

REBIRTH

There is a cloth merchant at Narsinghpur near Nagpur, whose son expired some seven years ago after an attack of smallpox. There were some complications, but the parents took extraordinary care in his nursing and administered less water. After some days, the boy died.

The other day, a washerman boy aged six years happened to pass the way where the cloth merchant lived. His wife was sitting in front of her house. The washerman boy looked at the house and muttered that it was his house and entered it. The merchant's wife asked the boy who he was. The boy told her that it was his house, and that they had tortured him to death by not giving him enough water when he was laid down with smallpox. On seeing a perambulator lying in the court-yard, he said that this was also his as he used it when he was there. He entered the room and pointed out to the lady the place where he died seven years ago.

The cloth merchant, in the meanwhile, came to the house and the boy also accused him of his death by not giving him enough water when he was ill, and remarked that they had thrown him in a dingy place and now they were satisfied! The boy later took the merchant and pointed out his cloth shop in the market area. The merchant wanted to give the boy some annas but the boy refused to accept it by crying, "You people had treated me shabbily when I was alive."—The merchant's eldest daughter who was also there gave the boy some annas and he willingly accepted it by saying, "You can pay me as you are my sister and were very kind to me."

These revelations have created a sensation in the town and people are flocking to the merchant's and the washerman's houses to hear about this rebirth. The theory of rebirth after death is clearly established. The couple is in a quandary as to whether to laugh or weep over the matter.

NATURE AND MEN

Proceedings in our legislatures are often enlivened by the most unexpected observations and questions, which are like a welcome ray of sunshine in their sedate atmosphere.

An excellent example of a question in lighter vein was provided recently in the Madras Assembly when a member wanted the Government to conduct research into "the prevention of female progeny and the propagation of the male species alone."

The clamour for birth control has now led to a situation in which the demand for quantitative limitation of progeny has given place to its qualitative determination.

Putting a supplementary to a question relating to family planning centres, the Madras legislator was of the view that unfortunately most of the families in India produced only girls.

The increased population was due, in his opinion, to the desire of Indian families to have male offspring. Family Planning was ignored, he said, in the attainment of that desire.

He suggested that the Government must try to find a way of having only sons, as that would be an "effective method" to check the growth of population, but the Minister for Public Health was unable to agree to the proposal.

The prejudice against female children is as old as mankind itself. One reason for the widespread practice of infanticide in various guises among not only primitive tribes but also civilised peoples in the past was the desire to eliminate female children.

From remotest antiquity down to our day, man has exercised his ingenuity to discover factors which may influence the birth of a boy or girl at will. The speculations of the ancient Greeks on this problem were unfruitful, and so were other inquiries through the ages.

It is only in recent times that biologists have been able to furnish a clue to the mechanism which determines that a certain number of offspring will be males and a certain proportion females.

Determination of sex occurs at the very instant of the entry of the male germ cell (sperm) into the female egg. Discussion of the scientific aspect of this phenomenon would be tedious in a non-technical article.

Stated briefly, in ordinary language, the phenomenon may thus be explained from the purely lay point of view. Both the male cell and the egg have a spherical body for which the technical term is nucleus.

Physiological changes occur about the time of puberty when the contents of the nucleus in both the male and female sex cells resolve themselves into structures known as chromosomes, which are rod-shaped, u-shaped, v-shaped bodies among other forms.

The chromosomes are the vital sex determiners. The number of chromosomes in the cells of each species of animal is constant. The number varies, however, in different animals from two to several hundred.

In human beings and mice it is 24 according to one biologist. A fundamental fact is that all human males have an equal number of two types of male cells (sperms), one containing a chromosome called X and the other Y.

On the other hand, all eggs are alike, each containing only the X-chromosome.

It is a scientifically established fact that the fusion of the X-chromosome of the male with the X-chromosome of the female gives rise to a daughter, while the fertilisation of an egg by the male cell containing the Y-chromosome causes a male.

Thus, so far as human beings are concerned, it is always the father who fixes the sex of the offspring. A plurality of wives is, therefore, no remedy for unions not blessed with sons.

It all depends on whether the X or the Y chromosome of the father unites with the egg.

Europe has an excess of women over men, while America has an excess of men. Asia has more men than women. England is the country in which it is hardest of all for girls to get married for it has the greatest excess of women over men.

China is the extreme opposite, having more men than women. Jews are said to have an unusually large number of boys, but this is uncertain.

Negroes have an excess of girls. This sex inequality appears rather marked in various countries.

Excluding pre-natal and post-natal mortality, one explanation is that in those races or families where the number of females is larger, the male cells having the X-chromosome reached the egg more quickly than the Y variety.

They probably travel faster or live longer in the womb, when no egg is there to be fertilised at once. Males are born only when the male cell bearing the Y-chromosome reaches the egg first.

Experimental evidence exists to show that this actually occurs in some vertebrate animals.

The pattern which applies to human beings is not universal in nature, for sex in birds and insects is determined by the eggs which have the unlike pair of chromosomes X and Y, while the male cells are all alike, each bearing the Y-chromosome. Sex in these animals is determined by the mother.

In the circumstances, the object of the Madras legislator would be attained if means could be devised to obstruct or handicap the progress of the male cell bearing the X in its attempt to reach the egg.

The discovery of such a handicap—probably by the use of a drug—would always ensure priority of movement for the male cell having the Y.

To put it plainly, sex depends on the outcome of the race between the X and Y male cells to reach the egg.

The mechanism governing sex has scientifically been established, and the rapid scientific strides in our day, leading to such feats as the splitting of the atom, do not render it beyond the bounds of possibility that some day, maybe in the not too distant future, the hope of the Madras legislator may be fulfilled.

On the other hand, perhaps, as one scientist has said, "We may never be able to control the production of children of one sex or the other—it is perhaps not particularly desirable that we should, as nature manages these affairs very well by herself."

Prodigious scientific achievements have, however, a tendency to boomerang, as we know only too well from the atomic and hydrogen bombs, which threaten to destroy the human race.

Y.

5 YEAR PLAN AT WORK

Nineteen Service personnel were killed when two I.A.F. Dakotas collided in mid-air over Agra last week.

Fifteen of those killed belong to the Air Force and four are Army personnel.

The accident took place at about 8 o'clock on 25th June, 1955.

The collision is described as one of the worst flying accidents in the history of the I.A.F.

Both aircraft were completely destroyed. One of the ill-fated Dakotas was carrying 11 of the victims and the other the remaining eight.

A Defence Ministry Press note says: A flying accident occurred recently near Agra in which two I.A.F. aircraft were involded.

Fifteen I.A.F. personnel and four Army personnel have been killed. A court of enquiry has been ordered to investigate the cause of the accident.

The following persons lost their lives in the accident:

1. Sqn. Ldr. Gopalan; 2. Flt. Lt. Verghese; 3. Flt. Lt. Vaish; 4. Plt. Officer Kale; 5. Flag Officer R. Singh; 6. W. O. Pillay; 7. Sgt. H. Singh; 8. Sgt. J. Sing; 9. Sgt. R. Singh; 10. Sgt. Ganapati; 11. Sgt. Menon: 12. Sgt. I. B. Mukerjee: 13. Sgt. O. P. Sharma; 14. Sgt. D. Gill; 15. Sgt. H. S. Joshi; 16. Sub. B. Ayare; 17. Sub. Gobind Khokate; 18. Jamadar G. Singh and 19. Jamadar Dattary.

* * *

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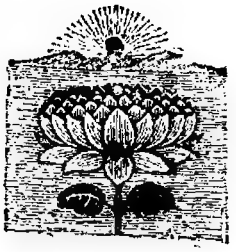

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A GREAT ZOO

The authorities of the London Zoo faced a problem when they decided they had too little space to display all the animals they wished—and too many iron bars to show off even the animals they had.

Now they are to spend £1 million in gradually rebuilding the Zoo, restoring its old prestige as the finest and most modern in the world.

In the new Zoo only the sportive monkeys and some of the wild birds will live in cages. Ingenious tricks of lighting and ventilation will ensure that few of the other creatures will wish to leave their own quarters—on the far side of a moat.

Even snakes can be openly displayed on warm islands of sand circled by frozen temperature zones which they will have no desire to cross. Tropical birds can be contained in sun-lit compartments walled by darkness. Clever lighting will enable visitors—nearly three million a year on average—to view the birds without themselves being seen.

The allotted area of the Zoo in Regent's Park, restricted to thirty-six acres, allows no space for expansion. So Zoo development is to be upwards. The new animal houses are to be several stories high, with covered ramps leading to centrally-heated apartments for pumas and perhaps an attractive roof garden for giraffes.

This means a deal for 3,500 animals, but many unusual questions had to be answered before young architect Frank Stengle-hofen could complete his plans. "What is the farthest a tiger has ever been known to leap?" he asked one day, and found that the defence ditch in the tiger house would have to be at least twenty-five feet wide.

Visitors to the Zoo are sometimes worried by the pungency of skunks and wild cats. Stenglehofen experimented with deodorants but this robbed the cats of their enjoymen of their own aroma. In the new Zoo two-way air conditioning will give the cats thei own aroma and ventilation for humans.

Thermostats controlling the precise degre of temperature will give beasts accustomed t warm climes greater comfort than ever before Some small mammals will be kept instinc tively in check and prevented from escaping not by bars, but by broad bands of colou which they regard as dangerous.

GETTING AHEAD

You've got to be clever to get ahead in this world, but not necessarily clever at your job.

American newspaperman James Gardon Bennett, for example, had a pekinese in whose judgment he placed immense faith. If the dog took a fancy to anyone on his staff, the fellow was made.

One morning he sent for a reporter to reprimand him. As the entered the room the pekinese made for him and without hesitation leapt at his knees and showed every sign of affection. Bennett was impressed. Instead of rebuking the man he gave him a better job and a substantial rise in pay!

His judgment was corret, for the man was not without resource; he had taken the trouble to rub the knees of his trousers with aniseed!

Bennett made the oddest of decisions, but most of them turned out right.

One day after sacking his financial editor he spotted a man with a large hooked nose in the corridor. "You're a Jew, aren't you?" he asked.

"Yes," replied the man timidly.

"Good," said Gardon Bennett. "All Jews know about money. From now you're financial editor."

Curiously enough, this reporter, who had never written a line on the subject, developed into a wizard of finance!

RARE LUCK

The saying that anything can happen on a race-track is very true, for it usually does. Fortunes have been made and lost in a matter of minutes. And Arnold Rothstein is reputed to be the man who made the most money from a single race.

On July 4th, 1921, ot aqueduct, in America, Rothstein went to the track with about £25 in his pocket. By late afternoon he had won the equivalent of £7,000, by backing rank outsiders.

He seemed to have a Midas touch. Then, when the final race was run, Rothstein picked on a two-year-old horse named Sidereal, running at 50 to 1. He staked every penny he had on the horse, dividing the bets among the bookies.

The horse romped home and Rothstein collected a total of over £350,000.

One of the greatest racehorses of all time was the famous Man of War. This horse won twenty out of the twenty-one races it ran, and by the time the fifteenth race came along, punters had to stake £10 in order to win £1.

On the very last race the horse ran, a punter, Joseph Schmallman, wanted to put down a sizeable bet but could not get a bookie to take him on.

Eventually one bookie agreed to take a bet. Schmallman had to lay down £25,000 in order to win £250. Man o' War romped home and the punter took his winnings.

Man o' War, known as Big Red, was bought by Samuel Riddle for £1,250 at a Saratoga auction. The horse had shown no promise of becoming a racer, but under the care of his trainer, William Harbutt, Man o' War netted his owner just over £500,000 in prize money and stud fees!

The strangest ending ever to a horse race happened in Australia, when Brampton, an even money favorite, was racing well ahead of the field. About sixteen feet from the finishing line Brampton stumbled and as the other horses came tearing along, the favourite went sliding forward, the jockey grimly hanging on. Still on its feet, the horse skidded past the post just ahead of his rivals.

This extrordinary finish was perfectly legal as the jockey was still in the saddle.

UP TO DATE

I hear there's a good reason for nicknaming a certain little village in Sweden: "The Village Whose Population is Always Up to Date."

Way back in December, 1953, a census taken in the village of Sodra Sandajo revealed that the population of men, women and children numbered exactly 1953.

"That's a coincidence!" exclaimed the villagers, and then forgot about it.

But at the end of 1954 somebody pointed out that the population figure had gone up by one, and so was still keeping pace with the date, despite the fact that there had been fluctuations in the number of residents at various times during the year!

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DIRECTOR.

Please arrive before 5-15 P. M.

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.....195 .

For some years past, the Maharani's High School having become overcrowded, and admissions becoming very difficult, forcing many girls to discontinue, this Bharateeya Kanya Mahavidyalaya — or National Girls' High School, was started by me in public interest, with the approval of the Director of Public Instruction, hoping for Government grant and public support.

The School has Fourth and Fifth Forms, and has 80 students now who are all half-free. They come even from Ashoka Road, Yelwal Road, Old Agrahar, Chamundipuram and Krishnamurthypuram. I have tried to provide necessary equipment, and am meeting the other expenses from my limited and poor resources.

Convent schools here are being financed by rich people from England and America. In fact donors have provided them even with vans!

May I appeal to you to make a generous donation to this national school

1. Towards equipment
2. Towards Library
3. Towards Poor Girls' Fund for books and clothes.
4. Towards midday milk or food,
5. Towards Prizes?

The School has just completed one year, and as an encouragement to its good work, Her Highness The Yuvarani — H. H. The Maharaja's Mother and Ag. Rajapramukh, — has most graciously consented to preside over its First Anniversary on the 21st instant.

Could you not send a generous donation before that date for any of the above purposes? Money given in charity is not money lost, or money robbed, or money forced from you in taxes or by a party in power. It is money which you feel pleased and proud to give, for a good cause, and it will come back to you manifold, in added prosperity by God's blessings.

Bernardo's Orphanages, St. Dunston's Home for the Blind, Baden Powell's Scout Movement, the Red Cross, Toc H, Rotary, Expeditions to Mount Everest and observing Solar Eclipse, are all thriving on the charity of the wealthy of the west. I hope Indians are not less humane than they, and that you will graciously make a voluntary generous donation towards this worthy effort in the cause of Women's Education.

I am, with esteem,

Yours Sincerely,

.....

DIRECTOR.

ನ್ಯಾಷನಲ್ ಗರ್ಲ್ಸ್ ಹೈ ಸ್ಕೂಲ್,

ನೂರಡಿ ರೋಡ್, ಮೈಸೂರು.

10—7—1955

ಈಗ್ಗೆ ಕೆಲವು ವರ್ಷಗಳಿಂದ ಮಹಾರಾಣಿ ಹೈಸ್ಕೂಲು ತುಂಬಿಹೋಗಿ ಸ್ಥಳ ಸಿಕ್ಕದೆ ಅನೇಕ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿನಿಯರು ಓದುವದನ್ನೇ ನಿಲ್ಲಿಸಬೇಕಾಗಿ ಬಂದದ್ದರಿಂದ ಈ **"ಭಾರತೀಯ ಕನ್ಯಾ ಮಹಾ ವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯ"—"ನ್ಯಾಷನಲ್ ಗರ್ಲ್ಸ್ ಹೈಸ್ಕೂಲ್"** ಅನ್ನು ಜನರ ಅನುಕೂಲಕ್ಕಾಗಿ, ಸರ್ಕಾರದವರೂ ಜನರೂ ಸಹಾಯಮಾಡಬಹುದೆಂದು ಸ್ಥಾಪಿಸಲಾಯಿತು.

ಈಗ ಫೋರ್ತ್ ಮತ್ತು ಫಿಫ್ತ್ ಫಾರಂಗಳು ಆರಂಭವಾಗಿ 80 ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿನಿಯರು ಓದುತ್ತಿದಾರೆ. ಇವರಿಗೆ ಅರ್ಧ ಫೀ. ಅಶೋಕ ರೋಡ್, ಇಲ್ವಾಲ್ ರೋಡ್, ಹಳೆ ಅಗ್ರಹಾರ, ಚಾಮುಂಡಿ ಎಕ್ಸ್ಟೆನ್ಷನ್, ಕೃಷ್ಣಮೂರ್ತಿ ಪುರಗಳಿಂದಲೂ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿನಿಯರು ಬರುತ್ತಿದಾರೆ. ಸ್ಕೂಲಿಗೆ ಬೇಕಾದ ಉಪಕರಣಗಳನ್ನು ಸಾಧ್ಯವಾದ ಮಟ್ಟಿಗೆ ಕೈಯಿಂದ ಒದಗಿಸಿ ಇತರ ಖರ್ಚುಗಳನ್ನೂ ಸ್ವಂತವಾಗಿ ವಹಿಸುತ್ತಿದೆ.

ಕಾನ್‌ವೆಂಟ್ ಸ್ಕೂಲುಗಳಿಗೆ ಯೂರೋಪ್ ಅಮೇರಿಕದಿಂದ ಧನಿಕರು ದ್ರವ್ಯಸಹಾಯಮಾಡುತ್ತಿದಾರೆ. ವ್ಯಾನುಗಳನ್ನೂ ಕೂಡ ಧರ್ಮವಾಗಿ ಕೊಟ್ಟಿದ್ದಾರೆ.

ತಾವು ಈ ಸ್ಕೂಲಿನ

1. **ಸಲಕರಣಗಳು,**
2. **ಪುಸ್ತಕಭಂಡಾರ,**
3. **ಬಡಹುಡುಗಿಯರ ಪುಸ್ತುಕಗಳು ಬಟ್ಟೆಗಾಗಿ ಫಂಡು,**
4. **ಮಧ್ಯಾಹ್ನದ ಹಾಲು ತಿಂಡಿ,**
5. **ಬಹುಮಾನ ವಿನಿಯೋಗ.**

ಇವುಗಳಿಗಾಗಿ ತಮ್ಮ ಕೈಲಾದ ಧನಸಹಾಯ ಮಾಡಬೇಕೆಂದು ಕೋರುತ್ತೇನೆ.

ಈ ಸ್ಕೂಲಿಗೆ ಈಗ ತಾನೆ ಒಂದು ವರ್ಷ ತುಂಬಿದೆ. ಸ್ಕೂಲಿನ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ತಮ್ಮ ಮೆಚ್ಚಿಗೆಯನ್ನು ತೋರಿಸಿ ಉತ್ತೇಜನವನ್ನು ಕೊಡುವದಕ್ಕೋಸ್ಕರ ನಮ್ಮ **ಶ್ರೀಮನ್ಮಹಾರಾಜರವರ ಮಾತೃಶ್ರೀಯವರೂ ಪ್ರಕೃತ ಆಕ್ಟಿಂಗ್ ರಾಜಪ್ರಮುಖರೂ** ಆಗಿರುವ ಹರ್ ಹೈನೆಸ್ **ಶ್ರೀಮದ್ಯುವರಾಣಿಯವರು** ಈ ತಿಂಗಳ 21 ನೇ ತಾರೀಖು ಸ್ಕೂಲಿನ **ಮೊದಲನೆಯ ವಾರ್ಷಿಕೋತ್ಸವದಲ್ಲಿ** ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷತೆಯನ್ನು ವಹಿಸಲು ಅನುಗ್ರಹಮಾಡಿದಾರೆ.

ಅಷ್ಟರೊಳಗೆ ತಾವು ದೊಡ್ಡ ಮನಸ್ಸುಮಾಡಿ ಮೇಲೆ ಸೂಚಿಸಿರುವ ಉದ್ದೇಶಗಳಿಗಾಗಿ ಯಥಾ ಶಕ್ತಿ ಉದಾರ ಸಹಾಯವನ್ನು ಅನುಗ್ರಹಿಸಿದರೆ ಸೂಕ್ತವಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ, ಮತ್ತು ತಮಗೂ ತಮ್ಮ ಮಕ್ಕಳುಗಳಿಗೂ ಶ್ರೇಯಸ್ಕರವಾಗುತ್ತದೆ.

ಇಂಗ್ಲೆಂಡ್ ಅಮೆರಿಕಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಧನಿಕರು ಪ್ರಜೆಗಳ ಕ್ಷೇಮಕ್ಕಾಗಿ ಅನೇಕ ಧರ್ಮ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳಿಗೆ ಉದಾರವಾಗಿ ಸಹಾಯಮಾಡುತ್ತಾರೆ. ತಾವು ಔದಾರ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಅವರಿಗೆ ಕಡಮೆಯಲ್ಲವೆಂದು ಭಾವಿಸುತ್ತೇನೆ.

ದಾನಮಾಡಿದ ಹಣವು ಕಳ್ಳರು ಕದ್ದುಕೊಂಡು ಹೋದ ಹಣದ ಹಾಗಲ್ಲ; ಸರ್ಕಾರದವರಾಗಲಿ, ಪಾರ್ಟಿಯವರಾಗಲಿ ಹೆದರಿಸಿ ಕಿತ್ತುಕೊಂಡ ಹಣದ ಹಾಗಲ್ಲ. ಅದು ನೀವಾಗಿ ಪ್ರೀತಿಯಿಂದ ನೆಡುವ ಬೇರು. ಅದು ಭಗವಂತನ ಕೃಪೆಯಿಂದ ನಿಮಗೆ ಇಮ್ಮಡಿಯಾಗಿ ಪ್ರತಿಫಲ ಕೊಡುತ್ತದೆ.

ಜಿ. ಆರ್. ಜೋಸ್ಯರ್,
ಎಂ.ಎ., ಎಫ್.ಆರ್.,ಇ.ಎಸ್.
ಡೈರೆಕ್ಟರು.

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MYSORE

A UNIQUE ANNIVERSARY

The Bharateeya Kanya Mahavidyalaya,—or National Girls' High School,—made history by celebrating its First Anniversary under the gracious Presidentship of Her Highness the Yuvarani and Acting Rajpramukh, on the 21st evening. In a spacious shamiana in front of the International Academy of Sanskrit Research building in 100 Feet Road, Mysore, the elite of the city ladies had assembled. Her Highness the Acting Rajpramukh, on arrival, to the accompaniment of the fine Palace Band, was received by Mrs. G. R. Josyer and after presentation of the members of the staff was led to the decorated dais and seated.

The function commenced with the daily school prayer, Mahalakshmi and Saraswathi stotras, by the students, followed by music by Srimathis Rajalakshmi and Pushpavalli. Next was a charming item of Gopi-dance to the accompaniment of Gopika-geeta from Bhagavatha.

The following Messages of good-wishes received from illustrious personages were then read by Srimathi M. K. Kamala, B.Sc:

Dr. Radhakrishnan, Vice-President of India, writes,

"My dear Josyer,

Thank you for your kind invitation for the First Anniversary meeting of the National Girls' High School, Mysore, on the 21st. instant. I have no doubt that the meeting will be a great success as it is being convened under high auspices."

Sri Mavlankar, Speaker, Loksabha, Delhi, wires,

"Wish your Anniversary function all success."

Sri K. C. Reddy, Minister for production, Govt. of India, writes,

"I am happy to learn that the First anniversary of the National Girls' High School will take place under the Presidentship of Her Highness The Yuvarani of Mysore and Acting Rajpramukh on Thursday the 21st July 1955 at Mysore. I hereby send my best wishes for the success of the function."

From Sri K. Hanumanthaiya, Chief Minister, Mysore,

"Sri K. Hanumanthaiya thanks Sri G. R. Josyer, for his kind invitation to the First Anniversary of the National Girls' High School, Mysore on Thursday the 21st July 1955, and wishes the institution a bright future."

Private Secretay to Finance Minister, Govt. of India, writes,

"I am desired by Shri Chintamani Deshmukh, Minister for Finance, Govt. of India to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of your invitation to the First Anniversary of the National Girls' High School on the 21st July 1955. The Finance Minister regrets his inability to attend."

Sri H. Siddaveerappa, Minister for Home, writes,

"Dear Sri Josyer,

Thank you for your kind invitation in connection with First Anniversary of National Girls' High School, Mysore on the 21st instant, under the gracious presidentship of Her Highness the Yuvarani and Acting Rajpramukh. I regret I am unable to be present on the happy occasion. I wish the function all success."

Sri C. P. Ramaswami Aiyer writes,

"Dear Mr. Josyer,

I am in receipt of your invitation to the First Anniversary of the National Girls' High

School on the 21st instant and wish the function all success and the Institution all prosperity."

From Sri K. T. Bhashyam, Chairman, Mysore Legislative Council,

"Shri K. T. Bhashyam thanks Sri G. R. Josyer for his invitation to the First Anniversary celebrations of the Bharateeya Kanya Mahavidyalaya on the 21st instant under the gracious presidentship of Her Highness the Yuvarani of Mysore and Acting Rajpramukh. He regrets his inability to be present on the occasion owing to personal inconvenience. He wishes the function all success and the institution a long life of useful service!"

Sri K. Rajah Iyer, Retd. Advocate General, Madras, writes,

"My dear Josyer,

Many thanks for your kind invitation in connection with the First Anniversary of the National Girls' High School. I can only convey to you my hearty greetings and good wishes; and wish the National Girls' High School greater and greater prosperity; and hope and pray that you will continue to be of service to the institution till it attains the age of majority."

Sri C. Anna Rao, Executive Officer, Tirumalai Tirupathi Devasthanams, writes,

"I invoke the blessings of Lord Srinivasa on this occasion."

Sri R. Puttaraja Urs, Ex-Judge, writes,

"I wish all success in your new field of activity."

Mr. James Vincent Joyce, Information Officer, U. S. Information Service, Madras, writes,

"Dear Mr. Josyer,

Though unable to attend the function personally, I wish to thank you for your kind invitation to attend the First anniversary celebrations of the National Girls' High School. Please accept my best wishes for a most successful function."

From Sri N. S. Hirannayya, Director of Public Instruction, Bangalore,

"Sri N. S. Hirannayya acknowledges with thanks the receipt of your invitation to attend the First anniversary of the National Girls' High School, Mysore under the distinguished patronage of Her Highness the Yuvarani of Mysore and Acting Rajpramukh, and regrets that on account of other engagements he is unable to attend the function. He is sure that the institution will gather inspiration from the distinguished Presidentship of Her Highness the Yuvarani of Mysore, and will have a long career of useful service to the public."

Messages were also received from Dr. Rajendra Prasad, President, H. H. Maharani Lakshmivilas Sannidhanadavaru, Rajakaryaprasakta A. Subrahmanya Iyer, Janab Abdul Gaffoor Khan, M.A., LL.B., of Gundlupet, Dr. K. N. V. Sastry, M.A., Ph.D. and other well-wishers.

Then an interesting item of kolata was presented by the students, and and a dramatic scene from "Red Riding Hood."

On behalf of the Founder-Director, Mr. G. R. Josyer Srimathi Rajalakshmi read the Address, which was presented to Her Highness in a pretty silver Casket by Mrs. G. R. Josyer.

Next the audience was thrilled by a Shiva-Parvathi dance,—Parvathi and friends performing dance before meditating Shiva.

Prizes were then distributed by Her Highness to the winners in various competitions, who were presented to Her Highness by Srimathis M. A. Yashodamma, B.A., M. K. Thangamma, B.Sc., and K. S. Nagamani, B.Sc.

This was followed by a musical concert by the pupils, and exquisite *tableau* of Bharat-mata.

ಮೈಸೂರು ಸಂಸ್ಥಾನದ ಶ್ರೀಮದ್ಯುವರಾಣಿಯವರೂ, ರಾಜಪ್ರಮುಖರೂ ಆದ ಶ್ರೀ ಕೆಂಪುಚೆಲುವಾಜಮ್ಮಣ್ಣಿಯವರು ಮೈಸೂರಿನ ಭಾರತೀಯ ಕನ್ಯಾಮಹಾವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯದ ಪ್ರಥಮ ವಾರ್ಷಿಕೋತ್ಸವ ಸಮಾರಂಭದಲ್ಲಿ ಅಪ್ಪಣೆಕೊಡಿಸಿದ ಭಾಷಣ.

ಶ್ರೀಮಾನ್ ಜಿ. ಆರ್. ಜೋಸ್ಯರವರೇ ಮತ್ತು ಮಹಿಳೆಯರೇ,

ಕಳೆದ ವರ್ಷ ಸ್ಥಾಪಿತವಾದ ಭಾರತೀಯ ಕನ್ಯಾಮಹಾವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯವೆಂಬ ಈ ಪ್ರೌಢ ಪಾಠಶಾಲೆಯ ವಾರ್ಷಿಕೋತ್ಸವ ಸಮಾರಂಭದ ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷತೆಯನ್ನು ವಹಿಸಲು ನಾವು ಅತ್ಯಂತ ಸಂತೋಷದಿಂದ ಒಪ್ಪಿರುತ್ತೇವೆ. ನಮ್ಮ ದೇಶದ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರ ಪ್ರಗತಿಗೆ ವಿಶೇಷವಾಗಿ ನೆರವಾಗುವ ಈ ವಿಧವ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಭಾಗವಹಿಸಲು ನಾವು ಯಾವಾಗಲೂ ಆಸಕ್ತರಾಗಿದ್ದೇವೆ. ಇಂದು ನಮಗೆ ದೊರೆತ ಭಕ್ತಿ ವಿಶ್ವಾಸ ಪೂರ್ವಕವಾದ ಸ್ವಾಗತದಿಂದ ನಮಗೆ ಬಹಳ ಹರ್ಷವುಂಟಾಗಿದೆ. ಅಲ್ಲದೆ, ಮೈಸೂರು ರಾಜಮನೆತನದವರ ವಿಷಯದಲ್ಲಿ ನೀವು ತೋರಿಸಿರುವ ಪ್ರೀತಿಗೌರವಗಳಿಗೆ ನಮ್ಮ ಕೃತಜ್ಞತಾಪೂರ್ವಕವಾದ ವಂದನೆಗಳನ್ನು ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಬಯಸುತ್ತೇವೆ.

ವೇದಗಳ ಕಾಲದಿಂದಲೂ ನಮ್ಮ ದೇಶದಲ್ಲಿ ಸಂಗೀತ, ಸಾಹಿತ್ಯ, ವೇದಾಂತ, ವಿಜ್ಞಾನ, ಜ್ಯೋತಿಷ್ಯ, ಮುಂತಾದ ಹಲವಾರು ಶಾಸ್ತ್ರಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಪಾಂಡಿತ್ಯವನ್ನು ಸಂಪಾದಿಸಿ ಪ್ರಖ್ಯಾತರೆನಿಸಿದ ಮಹಿಳಾರತ್ನಗಳ ವಿಚಾರವನ್ನು ಬಿನ್ನವತ್ತಳೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರಸ್ತಾಪಿಸಿದ್ದೀರಿ. ಈ ನಿರೂಪಣೆಯಿಂದ ನಮಗೆಲ್ಲರಿಗೂ ವಿಶೇಷ ಉತ್ಸಾಹವುಂಟಾದರೂ, ಪ್ರಕೃತದಲ್ಲಿ ನಮ್ಮ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರಲ್ಲನೇಕರು ಇನ್ನೂ ಬಹಳ ಹಿಂದುಳಿದಿರುವ ವಿಷಯವನ್ನು ನಾವು ಮರೆಯುವಹಾಗಿಲ್ಲ. ಈ ಶೋಚನೀಯ ಪರಿಸ್ಥಿತಿಗೆ ಮುಖ್ಯವಾದ ಕಾರಣವೆಂದರೆ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರಿಗಾಗಿರುವ ವಿದ್ಯಾಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳ ವಿರಳತೆ. ಈ ಕೊರತೆಯು ನೀಗಬೇಕಾದರೆ ಭಾರತೀಯ ಕನ್ಯಾಮಹಾವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯ ದಂತಹ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳು ಇನ್ನೂ ಹೆಚ್ಚು ಹೆಚ್ಚಾಗಿ ಸ್ಥಾಪಿತವಾಗಿ ಮಹಿಳಾವರ್ಗದ ಸರ್ವತೋಮುಖವಾದ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿಗೆ ನೆರವಾಗಬೇಕು.

ಮೈಸೂರು ಸರ್ಕಾರದವರಿಂದ ಈಗಾಗಲೆ ಅನೇಕ ಖಾಸಗೀ ವಿದ್ಯಾಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳಿಗೆ ಸಹಾಯ ದೊರಗುತ್ತಿದೆ. ಇದೇ ರೀತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಭಾರತೀಯ ಕನ್ಯಾಮಹಾವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯಕ್ಕೂ ನಮ್ಮ ಸರ್ಕಾರದವರು ಅವಕಾಶವಿರುವಮಟ್ಟಿಗೆ ದ್ರವ್ಯಸಹಾಯವನ್ನೊದಗಿಸುವರೆಂದು ಭರವಸೆಯನ್ನು ಈ ಸಂದರ್ಭದಲ್ಲಿ ನೀಡಲು ನಮಗೆ ಬಹಳ ಸಂತೋಷ ಉಂಟಾಗುತ್ತದೆ.

ವಿದ್ಯಾಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿಕಾರ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಮೈಸೂರು ಸರಕಾರದವರ ವಿಶೇಷವಾದ ಆಸಕ್ತಿಯು ಅವರ ವಾರ್ಷಿಕ ಆಯವ್ಯಯಗಳ ಪಟ್ಟಿಯಿಂದ ಸ್ಪಷ್ಟವಾಗುತ್ತದೆ. ವಿದ್ಯಾಭ್ಯಾಸಕ್ಕಾಗಿ ಅವರು ಒದಗಿಸುತ್ತಿರುವ ಮೊಬಲಗು ವರ್ಷದಿಂದ ವರ್ಷಕ್ಕೆ ಹೆಚ್ಚುತ್ತಾ ಬರುತ್ತಿರುವ ಅಂಶವು ಗಮನಾರ್ಹವಾದುದು. ಆದರೆ, ರಾಷ್ಟ್ರೋನ್ನತಿಗೆ ಸಾಧಕವಾದ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣಕಾರ್ಯವು ಕೇವಲ ಸರಕಾರದಿಂದಲೇ ಪೂರ್ಣವಾಗಿ ನೆರವೇರುವುದು ಅಸಾಧ್ಯ. ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕರೂ ಸ್ಥಳೀಯ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳೂ ಕೂಡ ಸಹಕಾರ, ಸಹಾನುಭೂತಿ ಮತ್ತು ದ್ರವ್ಯಸಹಾಯಗಳನ್ನು ನೀಡಿದರೆಮಾತ್ರ ಈ ಕಾರ್ಯವು ಯಶಸ್ವಿಯಾಗಬಲ್ಲುದು. ಶ್ರೀಮಾನ್ ಜೋಸ್ಯರ್‌ರವರು ಈ ತತ್ವವನ್ನು ಅರಿತು ಅದನ್ನು ಕಾರ್ಯರೂಪಕ್ಕೆ ತಂದು ಎಲ್ಲರ ಮನ್ನಣೆಗೂ ಪಾತ್ರರಾಗಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ವಿದ್ಯಾದಾನಕ್ಕೂ ಮಿಗಿಲಾದ ದಾನ ಯಾವುದೂ ಇಲ್ಲ. ಹೀಗಿರುವಲ್ಲಿ ಶ್ರೀಮಾ ಜೋಸ್ಯರ್‌ರವರ ವೇಲ್ಪಂಗ್ತಿಯನ್ನು ಇನ್ನೂ ಅನೇಕ ಧನಿಕರು ಅನುಸರಿಸಿ ಸಮಾಜಕ್ಕೆ ಸೇವೆ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವರೆಂಬುದೇ ನಮ್ಮ ನಂಬಿಕೆ.

ಭಾರತೀಯ ಕನ್ಯಾಮಹಾವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯವು ಜನಿಸಿದ ಒಂದು ವರ್ಷದೊಳಗೆ ನಮ್ಮ ನಗರದ ವಿದ್ಯಾಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಒಂದು ಮುಖ್ಯ ಸ್ಥಾನವನ್ನು ಸಂಪಾದಿಸಿದೆ. ಈ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಎಂಭತ್ತು ವಿದಾರ್ಥಿನಿಯರು ವ್ಯಾಸಂಗ ಮಾಡುತ್ತಿರುವುದಾಗಿ ಕೇಳಿ ನಮಗೆ ಬಹಳ ಸಂತೋಷವುಂಟಾಗಿದೆ. ಸ್ತ್ರೀಯರಿಗೆ ಜ್ಞಾನಾರ್ಜನೆಯು ಎಷ್ಟು ಮುಖ್ಯವೋ ಶೀಲಸಂಪತ್ತೂ ಅಷ್ಟೇ ಮುಖ್ಯ. ಆದುದರಿಂದ ನಮ್ಮ ಸಂಸ್ಕೃತಿಗನುಗುಣವಾದ ಶೀಲಸಂಪತ್ತಿಯ ಬೆಳವಣಿಗೆಗೂ ಈ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಅವಕಾಶ ದೊರಕಬೇಕೆಂಬುದೇ ನಮ್ಮ ಆಶಯ.

ನಾವು ನಮ್ಮ ಪುತ್ರರಾದ ಶ್ರೀಮನ್ ಮಹಾರಾಜರವರ ವಿದೇಶ ಪ್ರವಾಸಕಾಲದಲ್ಲಿ, ದೇಶದ ರಾಜಪ್ರಮುಖರ ಅಧಿಕಾರವನ್ನು ವಹಿಸಿರುವುದಕ್ಕೆ ನಿಮ್ಮ ಅಭಿನಂದನೆಗಳನ್ನು ಸೂಚಿಸಿದ್ದೀರಿ. ಅದಕ್ಕಾಗಿ ನಿಮಗೆ ನಮ್ಮ ವಂದನೆಗಳನ್ನು ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುತ್ತೇವೆ.

ಈ ಸಮಾರಂಭದಲ್ಲಿ ಭಾಗವಹಿಸುವ ಅವಕಾಶವನ್ನು ಕಲ್ಪಿಸಿಕೊಟ್ಟದ್ದಕ್ಕೆ ನಾವು ಬಹಳ ಕೃತಜ್ಞರಾಗಿದ್ದೇವೆ. ಈ ವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯವು ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಹೊಂದಲೆಂದೂ, ಇದರ ಸ್ಥಾಪಕರಿಗೂ, ಉಪಾಧ್ಯಾಯಿನಿಯರಿಗೂ, ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿನಿಯರಿಗೂ ದೇವರು ಆಯುರಾರೋಗ್ಯ ಐಶ್ವರ್ಯಾದಿಗಳನ್ನು ದಯಪಾಲಿಸಲೆಂದೂ ಹಾರೈಸುತ್ತೇವೆ.

ADDRESS by Her Highness The Yuvarani and Acting Rajapramukh of Mysore, SRIMATHI KEMPUCHELUVAJAMMANNIYAVARU ON THE OCCASION OF THE FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF THE BHARATEEYA KANYA MAHAVIDYALAYA, MYSORE.

Sriman G. R. Josyer and Ladies !

It gave us great pleasure to consent to preside over the First Anniversary of this Bharateeya Kanya Mahavidyalaya High School established last year. We are always agreeable to take part in functions of this kind which contribute to the welfare of the women of our land. We are greatly pleased by the loving and respectful welcome which we have received today. Further we wish to express our grateful thanks for the love and respect you have shown with regard to the Mysore Royal Dynasty.

You have referred in the Welcome Address to the numerous illustrious ladies of the past who shone from Vedic times in our land in literature, music, philosophy, science, astrology and other fields of learning.

Though such reference is inspiring to all of us, still we cannot forget the fact that the bulk of the womanhood of the land is backward. The main reason for this regrettable situation is the absence of educational institutions for girls. If this defect is to be remedied, institutions like the Bharateeya Kanya Mahavidyalaya should be established in increasing numbers and contribute to the all-round progress of womanhood.

The Goverment of Mysore are already granting aid to numerous non-official educational institutions. The annual Budget statement of the Mysore Government shows their great interest in the expansion of education. It is noteworthy that their expenditure on education is increasing from year to year. But education conducive to national development cannot be dependent on Government alone. It is possible only if the public and public institutions help, cooperate, and contribute towards it that it can be successful. Sriman Josyer, realising this truth, has put it into actual practice, and earned the esteem of everyone. It is our earnest hope that other wealthy men and women will follow the example of Sriman Josyer and render similar service to society.

Within one year of its birth the Bharateeya Kanya Mahavidyalaya has attained a prominent place among the educational institutions of the City. We are immensely pleased to hear that there are 80 students studying in this institution. Genteel conduct is as important to women as acquisition of knowledge. Therefore it is our wish that this institution should inculcate in its students gentility of behaviour in consonance wtth our ancient culture.

You have offered us congratulations on our assuming the office of Rajpramukh during the absence of our son, His Highness The Maharaja, on foreign tour. We offer you thanks.

We are grateful for providing us an opportunity to take part in this function. We pray that this institution may prosper, and that God might grant health, long life, and prosperity to the founder, to the staff, and to the students !

KEMPU CHELUVAJAMMANNIYAVARU.

ಮೈಸೂರು ನ್ಯಾಷನಲ್ ಗರ್ಲ್ಸ್ ಹೈ ಸ್ಕೂಲಿನ ಮೊದಲನೆ ವಾರ್ಷಿಕೋತ್ಸವದಲ್ಲಿ ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರಾದ ಆಕ್ಟಿಂಗ್ ರಾಜಪ್ರಮುಖರಾಗಿರುವ ಶ್ರೀಮದ್ಯುವರಾಣಿಯವರ ಸನ್ನಿಧಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಸ್ಥಾಪಕರಾದ ಶ್ರೀಮಾ ಜಿ. ಆರ್. ಜೋಸ್ಯರ್‌ರವರು ಅರ್ಪಿಸಿದ ವಿಜ್ಞಾಪನ ಪತ್ರಿಕೆ :

ಮಹಾಸ್ವಾಮಿ,

ಮಹಾಸ್ವಾಮಿಗಳವರಿಗೆ ಅನಂತವಾದ ಗೌರವದಿಂದ ಕೂಡಿ ಈದಿನದ ಸಮಾರಂಭಕ್ಕೆ ಹೃತ್ಪೂರ್ವಕವಾದ ಸ್ವಾಗತವನ್ನು ಅರ್ಪಿಸುತ್ತೇನೆ. ಶೈಶವಾವಸ್ಥೆಯಲ್ಲಿರುವ ಈ ಸಣ್ಣ ವಿದ್ಯಾಮಂದಿರದ ಮೊದಲನೆಯ ವರ್ಷವರ್ಧಂತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷತೆಯನ್ನು ವಹಿಸಿ, ಅದಕ್ಕೆ ಶೋಭೆಯನ್ನು ಕೊಡಲು ಕೈಪೆಮಾಡಿ ಸಮ್ಮತಿಸಿರುವುದು ತಮ್ಮ ಅಪಾರವಾದ ಅನುಗ್ರಹವನ್ನು ತೋರಿಸುತ್ತದೆ. ಈ ಸೌಲಭ್ಯವು ಯದುವಂಶದ ರಾಜಮಹಿಷಿಯರಿಗೆ ಹೊಸದಲ್ಲ; ಐದೂನೂರಕ್ಕೂ ಶತಮಾನಗಳಿಂದ ಯದುವಂಶಕ್ಕೆ ಅಲಂಕಾರಪ್ರಾಯರಾಗಿ ಕೀರ್ತಿಶೇಷರಾದ ರಾಜಮಹಿಷಿಯರೆಲ್ಲರ ದಿವ್ಯಗುಣಗಳಿಗೆ ಅನುರೂಪವಾದದ್ದೆ. ಅವರುಗಳು ವೀರಾಗ್ರೇಸರರೂ ಧರ್ಮನಿಷ್ಠರೂ ಪ್ರಜಾಹಿತೈಷಿಗಳೂ ಆಗಿ ಈಗಲೂ ಕೀರ್ತಿಯಿಂದ ಮೊಳಗುತ್ತಿರುವ ಪುತ್ರರತ್ನಗಳಿಗೆ ಜನನಿಯರಾದರು; ಮತ್ತು ತಮ್ಮಗಳ ಸೌಶೀಲ್ಯ, ಔದಾರ್ಯ, ಗಾಂಭೀರ್ಯ, ದೈವಭಕ್ತಿ, ಮುಂತಾದ ಗುಣಗಳಿಂದ ದೇಶದ ಸ್ತ್ರೀಸಮಾಜಕ್ಕೆ ಅನೇಕ ಶತಮಾನಗಳಿಂದ ಮೇಲ್ಪಂಕ್ತಿಯಾಗಿದ್ದರು. ಅಲ್ಲದೆ ಅವರಲ್ಲಿ ಕೆಲವರು ರಾಜನೀತಿಯಲ್ಲೂ ಪರಿಣತರಾಗಿ ದೇಶದ ಅಭ್ಯುದಯಕ್ಕೆ ಪಾತ್ರರಾಗಿ ಅತುಲವಾದ ಕೀರ್ತಿಯನ್ನೂ ಸಂಪಾದಿಸಿದ್ದಾರೆ.

ಸುಮಾರು ಎರಡುನೂರು ವರ್ಷಗಳ ಹಿಂದೆ ಯದುವಂಶಕ್ಕೆ ಅವಸಾನವೋ ಎಂಬ ಸ್ಥಿತಿಯು ಒದಗಿದಾಗ, ಮಹಾರಾಣಿ ಲಕ್ಷಮ್ಮಣ್ಣಿಯವರು ತಮ್ಮ ದಕ್ಷತೆ ವಿವೇಕಗಳಿಂದ ಬ್ರಿಟಿಷ್ ನಾಯಕರನ್ನು, ರಾಮನು ಧನುಸ್ಸನ್ನು ಬಗ್ಗಿಸಿದಂತೆ, ತಮ್ಮ ಇಷ್ಟದಂತೆ ಬಗ್ಗಿಸಿ, ಅವರ ಮೂಲಕ ಸಾವಿತ್ರಿಯಂತೆ ಯದುವಂಶವನ್ನು ಪುನರುಜ್ಜೀವನ ಮಾಡಿಸಿದರು. ಮಹಾರಾಣಿ ಸಂಯುಕ್ತೆ, ಝಾನ್ಸಿ ರಾಣಿ, ಚಾಂದ್‌ಬೀಬಿ ಮುಂತಾದ ಭಾರತದ ವೀರರಮಣಿಯರೆಂಬುವರು ಭಗ್ನಾಶರಾಗಿ ದುರ್ದೈವಕ್ಕೆ ತುತ್ತಾದರು. ಆದರೆ ಮಹಾರಾಣಿ ಲಕ್ಷ್ಮಮ್ಮಣ್ಣಿಯವರು 1766 ರಿಂದ 1799 ರವರಿಗೆ ಹತಾಶರಾಗದೆ, ಧೈರ್ಯಗುಂದದೆ, ದೃಢ ಮನಸ್ಕರಾಗಿ ತಮ್ಮ ಧ್ಯೇಯವನ್ನು ಸಾಧಿಸಿ ಚರಿತ್ರಾರ್ಹರಾದರು.

ಅವರ ಒಂದು ಶತಮಾನದ ನಂತರ ಮಹಾರಾಣಿ ವಾಣೀವಿಲಾಸ ಸನ್ನಿಧಾನದವರು ರಾಮಲಕ್ಷ್ಮಣರಂತೆ ಇಬ್ಬರು ಪುರುಷಶ್ರೇಷ್ಠರಿಗೆ ಜನನಿಯಾದದ್ದಲ್ಲದೆ, ಅನೇಕ ವರ್ಷಗಳು ರೀಜಂಟರಾಗಿ ರಾಜ್ಯಾಡಳಿತವನ್ನೂ ನಿರ್ವಹಿಸಿದರು; ನಂತರ ಅವರ ಪುತ್ರರ ದೀರ್ಘಕಾಲದ ರಾಜ್ಯಭಾರದಲ್ಲಿ ಅವರಿಗೆ ಬೆಂಬಲರಾಗಿದ್ದರು.

ಮಹಾರಾಣಿ ಲಕ್ಷ್ಮೀವಿಲಾಸ ಸನ್ನಿಧಾನದವರು ತಮ್ಮ ದೈವಭಕ್ತಿ, ಧರ್ಮನಿಷ್ಠೆ, ಮನೋದಾರ್ಢ್ಯಗಳಿಂದ ದೇಶದ ಜನರಿಗೆಲ್ಲಾ ಮಾನ್ಯರಾಗಿರುವರ ಅವರ ಅಸ್ವಸ್ಥತೆಯು ಗುಣಹೊಂದಿ, ಅವರು ಚಿರಕಾಲ ಸ್ತ್ರೀವೃಂದಕ್ಕೆ ಮೇಲ್ಪಜ್ಞ್ಯಾಯಾಗಿರಲೆನ್ನುವದು ನಮ್ಮಗಳ ಹಾರೈಕೆ.

ತಾವು ಸುಪ್ರಸಿದ್ಧವಾದ ಬಳವಾಯಿ ವಂಶದಲ್ಲಿ ಜನಿಸಿ, ಯದುವಂಶದ ಯುವರಾಜರುಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಅತ್ಯಂತ ಪ್ರಜಾನುರಾಗಿಗಳೆಂದು ಹೆಸರುವಾಸಿಯಾದ ಶ್ರೀಮದ್ಯುವರಾಜರವರನ್ನು ವರಿಸಿ, ಧರ್ಮವೇ ಮೂರ್ತೀಕರಿಸಿದಂತೆಯೂ, ಯದುವಂಶದ ಎರಡನೆಯ ರಾಜರ್ಷಿಯಾಗಿಯೂ, ಭಾರತದಲ್ಲಿ ಅದ್ವಿತೀಯರಾದ ಪ್ರಜಾನುರಾಗಿಗಳಾಗಿಯೂ ಇರುವ ಪುತ್ರರತ್ನರನ್ನು ಪಡೆದು ಗೌರವ್ಯರಾದಿರಿ. ಈಗ ಇಂಡಿಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಸ್ತ್ರೀಯರುಗಳಲ್ಲೆಲ್ಲಾ ಮೊದಲನೆಯವರಾಗಿ ರಾಜಪ್ರಮುಖತೆಯನ್ನೂ ಸಂಪಾದಿಸಿ ಚರಿತ್ರಾರ್ಹರಾಗಿರುವಿರಿ.

ಹೀಗೆ ತಾವು ಸ್ವತಃ ಸ್ತ್ರೀಯರಿಗೆ ಬೇಕಾದ ಸಮಸ್ತ ಸಂಪತ್ತುಗಳನ್ನು ಪಡೆದಿದ್ದರೂ ಈ ದಿನದ ಸಮಾರಂಭಕ್ಕೆ ದಯಮಾಡಿಸಿ ಭಾಗವಹಿಸಿರುವದು ಸ್ತ್ರೀಸಾಮಾನ್ಯದ ಏಳಿಗೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ತಮಗಿರುವ ಶ್ರದ್ಧೆಯನ್ನು ತೋರಿಸುತ್ತದೆ. ವಿದ್ಯೆಯು ಪುರುಷರಿಗೆ ಹೇಗೋ ಸ್ತ್ರೀಯರಿಗೂ ಹಾಗೆಯೇ ಅವಶ್ಯಕ. ಆದರೆ ಪ್ರಕೃತ ನೂರಕ್ಕೆ ೫ ಮಂದಿ ಸ್ತ್ರೀಯರಿಗೆ ಮಾತ್ರ ವಿದ್ಯಾಭ್ಯಾಸವು ದೊರೆಯುತ್ತಿದೆ. ಉಳಿದವರು ಅವಿದ್ಯರು.

ಒಂದು ಕಾಲದಲ್ಲಿ ಈ ಭರತ ಖಂಡವು ವಿದುಷಿಯರಿಗೆ ತೌರುಮನೆಯಾಗಿತ್ತು. ಅಗಸ್ತ್ಯ ಮಹರ್ಷಿಗಳ ಪತ್ನಿ ಲೋಪಾಮುದ್ರೆಯು ವೇದ ಮಂತ್ರಗಳ ಕನಯಿತ್ರಿ. ಯಾಜ್ಞವಲ್ಕ್ಯರ ಇಬ್ಬರು ಪತ್ನಿಯರು, ಗಾರ್ಗ್ಯಿ, ಮೈತ್ರೇಯಿ ಮಹಾ ಮೇಧಾವಿಗಳು. ರಾಜಕುಮಾರಿ ದೇವಹೂತಿಯು ಸಾಂಖ್ಯ ಸಿದ್ಧಾಂತದ ಸ್ಥಾಪಕರಾದ ಕಪಿಲ ಋಷಿಗಳ ತಾಯಿ. ಅವರಿಗೆ ಬಾಲ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಅವಳು ಬಿತ್ತಿದ ಬೀಜವು ದೊಡ್ಡ ವೈಜ್ಞಾನಿಕ ಸಿದ್ಧಾಂತವಾಗಿ ಫಲಿಸಿತು. ಅಶೋಕ ಚಕ್ರವರ್ತಿಯ ತಂಗಿ ಸಂಗಮಿತೆಯು ಬೌದ್ಧ ಧರ್ಮವನ್ನು ದಕ್ಷಿಣದಲ್ಲಿ ಬೋಧಿಸಿದಳು. ಮಂಡನಮಿಶ್ರರ ಪತ್ನಿಯಾದ ಭಾರತಿಯು ವಿದ್ವದ್ವರೇಣ್ಯರಾದ ಶಂಕರಾಚಾರ್ಯರ ಮೆಚ್ಚಿಕೆಗೆ ಪಾತ್ರರಾಗಿ ಶೃಂಗೇರಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಮೂರ್ತೀಕೃತರಾಗಿ ಆರಾಧಿಸಲ್ಪಡುತ್ತಿದಾರೆ. ಭಾಸ್ಕರಾಚಾರ್ಯರ ಪುತ್ರಿ ಲೀಲಾವತಿಯು ಗಣಿತ ಶಾಸ್ತ್ರದಲ್ಲಿ ತನ್ನ ಹೆಸರನ್ನು ಸುವರ್ಣಾಕ್ಷರಗಳಿಂದ ಸ್ಥಾಪಿಸಿದ್ದಾಳೆ. ವರಾಹಮಿಹಿರರ ಹೆಂಡತಿ ಖನಾ ಜ್ಯೋತಿಶ್ಶಾಸ್ತ್ರದಲ್ಲಿ ಅವರಿಗಿಂತ ಪ್ರಬಲಳಾದ ಪಂಡಿತೆ. ಶಾಲಿವಾಹನ ಚಕ್ರವರ್ತಿಯ ಹೆಂಡತಿ ಮಲಯವತಿಯು ಪ್ರಸಿದ್ಧಳಾದ ವೈಯಾಕರಣಿ. ಭೋಜರಾಜನ ಒಡ್ಡೋಲಗದಲ್ಲಿ ಅನೇಕ ಮಂದಿ ವಿದ್ವಾಂಸೆಯರಿದ್ದರು. ಒಂದು ದಿನ ಅವನ ಆಸ್ಥಾನಕ್ಕೆ ೪ ಜನ ಕನ್ಯೆಯರು ಬಂದರು. "ನಾವು ಕಾಶಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ವಿದ್ಯಾವಂತರಾಗಿ ಬಂದಿದೇವೆ. ನಿಮ್ಮ ದೊಡ್ಡ ಆಸ್ಥಾನದಲ್ಲಿ ನಮ್ಮನ್ನು ಸೋಲಿಸಬಲ್ಲವರಿದ್ದರೆ ನೋಡಬಹುದು. ಮೊದಲನೆಯದಾಗಿ ನಮ್ಮ ಜಾತಿಗಳು ಯಾವವೆಂದು ತಿಳಿಸಲಿ", ಎಂದು ಹೇಳಿದರು. ದೊರೆಯು "ಮೂರು ದಿನ ನಮ್ಮ ಅತಿಥಿಗಳಾಗಿರಿ. ನೋಡೋಣ" ಎಂದರು. ೨ ದಿನಗಳು ಕಳೆದವು. ಅವರು ಸಭೆಗೆ ಬಂದು ಭಾಗವಹಿಸುತ್ತಿದ್ದರೂ ಅವರ ಜಾತಿಗಳು ಗೊತ್ತಾಗಲಿಲ್ಲ. ಆ ರಾತ್ರಿ ಕಾಳಿದಾಸನೇ ವೇಷಮರೆಸಿಕೊಂಡು ಅವರ ಬಿಡಾರದ ಪಡಸಾಲೆಯ ಮೇಲೆ ಹೊಂಚು ಕೇಳುತ್ತಿದ್ದನು. ಬೆಳಗ್ಗೆ ಸೂರ್ಯೋದಯವಾಗಲು ಅವರುಗಳು ಕಿಟಕಿಯ ಹತ್ತಿರ ಬಂದು ನಾಲ್ಕು ಜನವೂ ಈ ಶ್ಲೋಕದ ಕಾಲು ಕಾಲು ಭಾಗದಿಂದ ವರ್ಣಿಸಿದರು:

"ಅಭೂತ್ಪ್ರಾಚೀ ಸಿಂಗಾ ರಸಪತಿರಿವ ಪ್ರಾತ್ಯಕನಕಂ, ಗತಚ್ಛಾಯಶ್ಚಂದ್ರೋ ಬುಧಜನಇವ ಗ್ರಾಮ್ಯಸದಸಿ।
ಕ್ಷಣಾತ್ಕ್ಷೀಣಾಸ್ತಾರಾ ನೃಪತಯ ಇವಾನುದ್ಯಮಪರಾಃ, ನರಾಜನ್ತೇ ದೀಪಾ ಪ್ರವಿಣರಹಿತಾನಾಮಿವ ಗೃಹಂ॥"

ಆದನ್ನು ಕೇಳಿ ಕಾಳಿದಾಸನು ಹೊರಟುಹೋದನು. ಆ ದಿನ ಅವರು ಸಭೆಗೆ ಬಂದು ಪ್ರಶ್ನಿಸಲು, ಕಾಳಿದಾಸನು 'ಮಹಾಸ್ವಾಮಿ, ಈ ಬೆಳಗ್ಗೆ ಇವರು ಮಾಡಿದ ಸೂರ್ಯೋದಯ ವರ್ಣನೆಯಿಂದ ಇವರ ಜಾತಿಯನ್ನು ಹೇಳಬಹುದು. 'ಪೂರ್ವದಿಶೆಯು ಚಿನ್ನವನ್ನು ಪುಟಹಾಕಿದ ಪಾದರಸದಂತೆ ಸಿಂಗಳ ವರ್ಣವಾಗಿದೆ" ಎಂದು ಹೇಳಿದ ಕನ್ಯೆಯು ವಿಶ್ವಕರ್ಮ ಜಾತಿಯವಳು. "ದಡ್ಡರ ಗುಂಪಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಸೇರಿರುವ ವಿದ್ವಾಂಸನಂತೆ ಚಂದ್ರನು ಕಾಂತಿಹೀನನಾಗಿದ್ದಾನೆ" ಎಂದು ಹೇಳಿದವಳು ಬ್ರಾಹ್ಮಣ ಕನ್ಯೆ. "ನಿಷ್ಪ್ರಯತ್ನರಾಗಿ ಕಾಲಹರಣಮಾಡುವ ರಾಜರುಗಳಂತೆ ನಕ್ಷತ್ರಗಳು ಕ್ಷಣಮಾತ್ರದಲ್ಲಿ ಅದೃಶ್ಯವಾಗಿ ಹೋಗಿವೆ", ಎಂದವಳು ಕ್ಷತ್ರಿಯ ಕನ್ಯೆ. "ಧನಹೀನರ ಮನೆಗಳಂತೆ ದೀಪಗಳು ಕಾಂತಿ ಇಲ್ಲವಾಗಿವೆ", ಎಂದವಳು ವೈಶ್ಯಕನ್ಯೆ,' ಎಂದು ತಿಳಿಸಿದನು. ಹೀಗೆ ಆಗಲೂ ಎಲ್ಲಾ ಜಾತಿಯ ಕನ್ಯೆಯರಿಗೂ ವಿದ್ಯಾಭ್ಯಾಸವಿತ್ತು. ಮಿಥಿಲ ದೇಶದಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರಚಾರದಲ್ಲಿರುವ "ವಿವಾದ ಚಂದ್ರ" ಎಂಬ ಲಾ ಗ್ರಂಥವು ಲಕ್ಷ್ಮೀದೇವಿ ಎಂಬ ಪಂಡಿತೆಯು ಮಾಡಿದ್ದು. 2500 ವರ್ಷಗಳ ಹಿಂದೆ ಬಂದಿದ್ದ ಹುಯೆನ್‌ತ್ಸಾಂಗ್ ಎಂಬ ಚೀನಾ ಯಾತ್ರಿಕನು ಚಕ್ರವರ್ತಿ ಹರ್ಷದೇವನ ತಂಗಿ ಪ್ರಿನ್ಸೆಸ್ ರಾಜ್ಯೇಶ್ವರಿಯ ಪಾಂಡಿತ್ಯವನ್ನು ನೋಡಿ ಬೆರಗಾದನು. ಬಂಗಾಳದಲ್ಲಿರುವ ಮಿತಾಕ್ಷರ ಲಾ ಪುಸ್ತಕಕ್ಕೆ ವ್ಯಾಖ್ಯಾನವನ್ನು ಬರೆದಿರುವ ಬಾಲಂಭಟ್ಟನು ಗಂಡಸಲ್ಲ, ಲಕ್ಷ್ಮೀದೇವಿ ಎಂಬ ಹೆಂಗಸು. ತಂಜಾವೂರು ರಾಜರ ಆಸ್ಥಾನದಲ್ಲಿ "ಮಧುರ ವಾಣೀ" ಎಂದು ಬಿರುದು ಪಡೆದ ಕವಿಯತ್ರಿಯು ದೊರೆಯು ಬರೆದಿದ್ದ ತೆಲಗು ಮಹಾಕಾವ್ಯವನ್ನು ಸಂಸ್ಕೃತದಲ್ಲಿ ಬರೆದಿದಾಳೆ. ಹೀಗೆಯೆ ಮೈಸೂರ್ ಆಸ್ಥಾನದ ಸಂಚಿಯ ಹೊನ್ನಮ್ಮ, ಅಕ್ಕಮಹಾದೇವಿ, ಆಂಡಾಳ್, ಅವ್ವೆಯಾರ್ ಎಂಬ ವಿಖ್ಯಾತ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರು ಹಿಂದಿನ ಕಾಲದ ಸ್ತ್ರೀ ವಿದ್ಯಾಭ್ಯಾಸಕ್ಕೆ ಸಾಕ್ಷಿಯಾಗಿದ್ದಾರೆ.

ಇವರುಗಳೆಲ್ಲರೂ ಪ್ರಾಯಶಃ ಅವರವರ ಮನೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ತಂದೆತಾಯಿಯರಿಂದ ವಿದ್ಯೆಯನ್ನು ಕಲಿತವರು. ಈಚೆಗೆ ಮಕ್ಕಳ ವಿದ್ಯೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ತಂದೆತಾಯಿಯರ ಪಾತ್ರವು ತಪ್ಪಿಹೋಗಿ, ಸರ್ಕಾರವು ಬಾಲಕಿಯರೆಲ್ಲರಿಗೂ ವಿದ್ಯೆಗೆ ಏರ್ಪಡಿಸಲು ಸಮರ್ಥವಾಗದೆ ನೂರಕ್ಕೆ ಐದು ಹುಡುಗಿಯರಿಗೆ ಮಾತ್ರ ವಿದ್ಯೆಯು ಲಭಿಸುತ್ತಾ ಸ್ತ್ರೀ ವಿದ್ಯಾಭ್ಯಾಸವು ತಟಸ್ಥವಾಗಿ ನಿಂತಿದೆ.

ಈ ಕಾರಣದಿಂದಲೂ, ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಮಂತ್ರಿವರ್ಯರುಗಳು ಬಾರಿಬಾರಿಗೂ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಸ್ಕೂಲುಗಳ ಜೊತೆಗೆ ಪ್ರಜಾಹಿತೈಷಿಗಳೂ ಸ್ಕೂಲುಗಳನ್ನು ಸ್ಥಾಪಿಸಿ ಸರ್ಕಾರಕ್ಕೆ ಒತ್ತಾಸೆ ಮಾಡಬೇಕೆಂದು ಹೇಳುತ್ತಿರುವದರಿಂದಲೂ, ವಿದ್ಯಾ ಇಲಾಖೆಯ ಡೈರೆಕ್ಟರವರ ಅನುಮತಿಯನ್ನು ಪಡೆದು ಕೆಲವು ಪುರಜನರ ಕೋರಿಕೆಯಮೇರೆ ಈ ಹೈಸ್ಕೂಲನ್ನು ಸ್ಥಾಪಿಸಲು ಯತ್ನಿಸಿದೆನು. ಕಳೆದ ವರ್ಷದ ಜೂನ್ ನಲ್ಲಿ ೬ ಜನ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿನಿಯರೊಡನೆ ಪ್ರಾರಂಭವಾಗಿ ಈಗ ಫೋರ್ತ್ ಮತ್ತು ಫಿಫ್ತ್ ಫಾರಮುಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ೬೦ ಮಂದಿ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿನಿಯರು ಇದ್ದಾರೆ. ಅವರಲ್ಲಿ ಅನೇಕರು ಇಲ್ವಲ್ ರೋಡ್, ಸಿಮೆಂಟ್‌ಬ್ಲಾಕ್, ಕೃಷ್ಣಮೂರ್ತಿಪುರಂ ಮುಂತಾಗಿ ದೂರದಿಂದ ಬರುತ್ತಾರೆ; ಬಹು ಮಂದಿ ಬಡವರು, ಎಲ್ಲರೂ ಹಾಫ್ ಫ್ರೀ. ಶಿಕ್ಷಣಕ್ಕೆ ಒಬ್ಬರು ಎಂ.ಎ., ಮೂರು ಮಂದಿ ಲೇಡಿ ಬಿ.ಎಸ್ಸಿ. ಗಳು, ಒಬ್ಬರು ಲೇಡಿ ಬಿ.ಎ., ಒಬ್ಬರು ಲೇಡಿ ಮ್ಯೂಸಿಕ್ ಟೀಚರ್ ಇದಾರೆ. ಇಂಗ್ಲೀಷ್, ಕನ್ನಡ, ಸಂಸ್ಕೃತ, ಹಿಂದಿ, ತಮಿಳು, ಗಣಿತ, ಚರಿತ್ರೆ, ಸೈನ್ಸ್, ಪೌರನೀತಿ ಮತ್ತು ಗೃಹಕಾರ್ಯಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣವನ್ನು ಕೊಡುತ್ತಿದೆ. ಸ್ಕೂಲು ಸರ್ಕಾರವು ಮಾಡಬೇಕಾದ ಕೆಲಸವನ್ನೇ ಮಾಡುತ್ತಿದ್ದರೂ ಇನ್ನೂ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಗ್ರಾಂಟು ಲಭಿಸದಿರುವದರಿಂದ ಸಾಕ್ಷ ಪ್ರತಿಫಲಾಪೇಕ್ಷೆಯನ್ನು ಬಿಟ್ಟು ಗೋಖಲೆ ಗಾಂಧಿಯರಂತೆ ದೇಶಸೇವೆ ಜನಸೇವೆಯ ಭಾವನೆಯಿಂದಲೆ ಕೆಲಸವನ್ನು ನಿರ್ವಹಿಸಬೇಕಾಗಿದೆ.

ಸ್ಕೂಲಿನ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿನಿಯರು ಪ್ರತಿದಿನ ಆರಂಭದಲ್ಲಿ ಸ್ಕೂಲಿಗೆ ಅವರ ಕಟಾಕ್ಷವು ದೊರೆತು ಸ್ಕೂಲು ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿಯಾಗಲೆಂದು ಲಕ್ಷ್ಮೀ ಸರಸ್ವತಿಯರ ಸ್ತೋತ್ರವನ್ನು ಹೇಳುತ್ತಾರೆ. ಆ ಸ್ತೋತ್ರಕ್ಕೆ ಉತ್ತರವಾಗಿಯೊ ಎಂಬಂತೆ ಮಹಾಸ್ವಾಮಿಯವರು ಅತ್ಯಂತ ಕೃಪೆಮಾಡಿ ಈ ಸಮಾರಂಭಕ್ಕೆ ದಯಮಾಡಿಸಿ ಅಲಂಕರಿಸಿರುವಿರಿ. ಸ್ಕೂಲಿನ ಮೇಲೆ ತಮ್ಮ ಕಾರುಣ್ಯಕ್ಕೂ, ಬಾಲಕಿಯರ ಮೇಲೆ ತಮ್ಮ ವಾತ್ಸಲ್ಯಕ್ಕೂ, ಸ್ತ್ರೀ ವಿದ್ಯಾಭ್ಯಾಸದಲ್ಲಿ ತಮಗಿರುವ ಅಭಿಮಾನಕ್ಕೂ, ನನ್ನ ಪ್ರಾರ್ಥನೆಯನ್ನು ಅಂಗೀಕರಿಸಿ ತಾವು ತೋರಿಸಿರುವ ಸೌಶೀಲ್ಯ ಸೌಜನ್ಯ ಸೌಲಭ್ಯಗಳಿಗೂ, ನನ್ನ ಅತ್ಯಂತ ಕೃತಜ್ಞತೆಯನ್ನು ವಿನಯಪೂರ್ವಕವಾಗಿ ಅರ್ಪಿಸುತ್ತೇನೆ. ಲಕ್ಷ್ಮೀ ಸರಸ್ವತಿಯರೆ ಬಂದಂತೆ ಈ ಸಭೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಶೋಭಿಸುತ್ತಿರುವ ಶ್ರೀಮನ್ಮಹಾರಾಣಿಯವರಿಗೂ, ಸಾನಂದ್ ಶ್ರೀಮದ್ಯುವರಾಣಿರವರಿಗೂ, ಗಾಯತ್ರಿಯೆ ಪ್ರತ್ಯಕ್ಷವಾದಂತೆ ಇರುವ ಶ್ರೀ ರಾಜಕುಮಾರಿ ಗಾಯತ್ರೀದೇವಿಯವರಿಗೂ, ರಾಜಕುಮಾರಿ ಮೀನಾಕ್ಷಿಯವರಿಗೂ ಕೃತಜ್ಞತಾಪೂರ್ವಕವಾದ ವಂದನೆಗಳನ್ನು ಅರ್ಪಿಸಿ, ಭಗವಂತನು ಶ್ರೀಮನ್ಮಹಾರಾಜರವರಿಗೂ ಅವರ ಕುಟುಂಬ ವರ್ಗದವರಿಗೂ ಸಮಸ್ತ ಸನ್ಮಂಗಳಗಳನ್ನೂ ಉಂಟುಮಾಡಲೆಂದು ಪ್ರಾರ್ಥಿಸುತ್ತೇನೆ.

ತಮಗೆ ರಾಜಪ್ರಮುಖತೆಯು ದೊರತದ್ದಕ್ಕೆ ಸ್ಕೂಲಿನವರಾಗಿಯೂ ಮೈಸೂರಿನ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರ ಪರವಾಗಿಯೂ ತಮಗೆ ಅಭಿನಂದನೆಗಳನ್ನು ಸಮರ್ಪಿಸಿ, ತಾವು ಚಿರಕಾಲ ಆಯುರಾರೋಗ್ಯಗಳನ್ನು ಹೊಂದಿ ದೇವಸೇವೆ ಪ್ರಜಾಕ್ಷೇಮಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ನಿರತರಾಗಿ ಇರುವಂತೆ ಆಗಲೆಂದು ಭಗವಂತನನ್ನು ಪ್ರಾರ್ಥಿಸುತ್ತೇನೆ.

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QUEER NEWSPAPERS

Newspapers themselves rarely make news. Their job is to report news. But the recent stoppage of national newspapers made a news story that went all round the world.

Novel or freak newspapers always make news. The Fiji Islands has a daily, published from Suva, which claims to be "the first newspaper in the world." Why? Because Far Eastern Suva, says the newspaper, is "the first city to see daylight!"

A newspaper that could be read in the dark was published in Spain some years ago. It was called 'Luminaria' and was printed with phosphorus in the ink so that the print glowed.

Another unusual newspaper, printed in Paris, was called 'The Handkerchief.' It was produced on rice-paper so that after it had been read, the newspaper could be used as a handkerchief!

An Indian newspaper publisher went one better by using soft white cotton as newsprint. This could also be used as a handkerchief, but it had the additional advantage that it could be washed, returned to the publishers and used again.

Biggest newspaper ever published was issued in New York in 1859. It was called 'The Illuminated Quadruple Constellation.' It measured eight and a half feet in height and was six feet wide!

It took forty people two months to produce the newspaper, which, its publishers proposed, should be issued once a century. Nobody yet knows whether it will be published again in 1959, but a copy of the 1859 issue is preserved to-day in a French museum!

A newspaper called 'The Water Nymph' found ready buyers when it was published at a busy French seaside resort before the war—for the benefit of holidaymaking bathers. It was printed on waterproof paper, so that the bathers could read the latest news on hot days without quitting the sea!

TREE 1000 YEARS OLD

Seedlings ten inches high have been planted in gardens in Pretoria, South Africa, in a long-term experiment to grow there the largest trees in the world—the giant sequoias.

These awe-inspiring trees, the oldest living things on earth, flourish high on the slopes of California's Sierra Nevada mountains, some exceed 300 feet in height and contain sufficient timber to build fifty modern, six-roomed houses. Ring counts made on one giant felled not long ago showed that it was at least 2,140 years old.

Seeds no larger than a pin-head rain down from the sequoias' dizzy heights by the million every year, but forestry experts in America and Canada have calculated that the chances of one of these fallen seeds surviving and germinating is less than one in a billion.

To demonstrate the great age of a giant sequoia which fell during a hurricane thirty-two years ago, a naturalist of the Yosemite National Park of America placed it on exhibition and marked on a cross-section of the tree the date at which the rings were formed and a well-known event in history which was taking place at the time.

This sequoia was about 1,000 years old, the oldest part having been formed about 923 A.D. A ring outside this was marked, 1066, Battle of Hastings. Then came one marked, 1215, Magna Carta.

The following rings were marked, in order: 1542, Columbus' discovery of America; 1620, Landing of the Pilgrim Fathers; 1776, Declaration of Independence. On the outermost ring was 1860, Civil War.

DIAMONDS

For well over a century scientists have been trying to make diamonds out of carbon. From the time it became known that pure charcoal and diamonds were both chemically identical —made of the common element carbon—the idea that diamonds could be produced artificially has been a challenge.

Why does just a little of the world's great stock of carbon turn up in the unusual form of diamonds? Diamond crystals have been formed long ago as the result of huge pressure and high temperatures in the mineral depths of the earth's crust.

Several times in the last century scientists claimed to have turned carbon into diamonds. But all the claims proved to be false.

Now it has been done. Diamonds in plenty have been produced in the research laboratories of an American firm.

Making diamonds has depended upon designing and building a chamber capable of standing a violent combination of pressure and heat—1½ million pounds per square inch and temperatures above 5000 degrees F. That is about the same as 100,000 times ordinary atmospheric pressure and twice the temparature needed to melt steel!

But this achievement won't mean that diamond mines are in for a thin time—yet. Or that we can expect slashed prices for diamonds. The new man-made diamonds are yellow and they're very small. The biggest one so far made was only one-sixteenth of an inch long and that took sixteen hours of great pressure and heat.

It costs a great deal of money to maintain such huge pressure and temperature for several hours. At present the costs of making diamonds are about twice the price of similar natural diamonds.

However, diamonds are not just jewels. They have important uses in industry because the surface of a diamond is the hardest surface that is known. There are special cutting and polishing jobs that only diamonds can do well. This new American process is aimed at making industrial diamonds.

High costs now may not remain a headache for long—very often the first costs in making a synthetic product are ten times the price of the natural article. The working costs are bound to come down as more is learnt about the new process.

An ancient challenge has gone at last. It may be only a matter of time before "diamond cut diamond" has a new meaning in the world's diamond trade—with factory-produced diamonds on the one side, and diamonds from the mines on the other.

But unless bigger diamonds free from their yellow colour can be artifiicially made, the mines will continue to produce all the diamonds for bracelets and brooches!

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ADDRESS

Presented to Her Highness The Yuvarani—Acting Rajapramukh

ON THE OCCASION OF PRESIDING OVER THE FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF THE

"BHARATEEYA KANYA MAHAVIDYALAYA"

NATIONAL GIRLS' HIGH SCHOOL, MYSORE,

on 21—7—1955.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNESS,

I tender heartiest and most respectful welcome to Your Highness on this auspicious occasion. It is most kind and gracious of Your Highness to have condescended to preside over and illuminate the First Anniversary of this modest and humble institution. But the condescension is in keeping with the great qualities which have adorned the illustrious ladies of the Yadava Dynasty during over five and a half centuries. They bred heroes and warriors and bore wise kings, whose names are sung in songs even today. By their piety, charity, generosity, and modesty, they have been examples to the womanhood of the State for generations past. Some of them have gone further, and have shone forth with statesmanship and political acumen.

Maharani Lakshmammanni was a great heroine, who when the dynasty was about to be extinguished by usurpers, bent alien statesmen to her will, and like Savitri secured one and a half centuries of new life to the Yadava Dynasty. While Jhansi Rani, Chand Beebi, and other famed heroines of the past ended in disaster, Maharani Lakshmammanni stands out as a rare example of astonishing success. From 1766 to 1799, she never tired, never lost heart, never gave up hope, but endeavoured continuously till her determined efforts were crowned with success.

A century later, Maharani Vanivilasa Sannidhanadavaru was not only mother of two fine sons, but earned fame as Regent, and also remained as inspiration to her great son during his long reign.

That son's worthy consort, Maharani Lakshmivilas Sannidhanadavaru, by her piety, charity, and dignity, continues to command the respect and esteem of the public of Mysore. They regret that Her Highness is in poor health for some time past, and pray that she may be restored to health very soon, and continue her pious life for many years.

Your Highness, daughter of one of the first noblemen and gentlemen of the State, late Srimanth Dalvoy Devaraja Urs, entered the Royal House as the bride of one of the most beloved Yuvarajas of the Yadava Dynasty, and became proud mother of a Prince of Peace, one who is the most democratic of Maharajas, the simplest of Millionaires, the second Rajarshi of the Yadava Dynasty, and one of the two most popular personages of India today. And now Your Highness has made history, by becoming the first lady in India to be anointed Rajpramukh under the Constitution!

While thus having reached the acme of a woman's ambition, Your Highness's condescension in agreeing to grace this occasion indicates that Your Highness is not unmindful of the welfare of the womanhood of the land. And education is as much the right of every woman as of men. Today only 5% of the women are receiving education. The rest just exist.

And this land was famous for its learned women since Vedic times. To mention only a few, Sage Agastya's wife, Lopamudra, was a Vedic songstress. Sage Yagnyavalkya's great wives, Maitreyi and Gargyi, were famous women of learning. Princess Devahooti, mother of Sage Kapila, sowed in him the seeds which later blossomed as the Sankhya system of Philosophy. Asoka's sister Sangamita spread Budhism in the South. Bharati, Mandanamisra's wife, was so great a scholar that she has been deified by Shankaracharya, the scholar of scholars, as seen in Sringeri. Leelavati, daughter of Bhaskaracharya, the mathematician, has left her name indelibly in that field of learning. Khana, wife of Varaha-Mihira the astrologer, was even a greater scholar than her husband. Emperor Shalivahana's wife, Empress Malayavati, was a great grammarian. King Bhoja's court contained many esteemed poetesses. Once, it is said, four young ladies came to his court. Asked who they were, they said they were scholars from Kasi, and had come to see whether anyone in his court could defeat them. The first test was whether any of his great scholars could discover their castes. They were asked to stay as guests for 3 days to do so. Two days were over, and their castes could not be discovered. That night Kalidasa himself went in disguise in order to judge their castes by overhearing their conversation. He spent the night on their pial. At sunrise they came to the window, and each one described the sun-rise in one-fourth of a stanza :

ಅಭೂತ್ಪ್ರಾಚೀಪಿಂಗಾರಸಪತಿವ ಪ್ರಾಪ್ತಕನಕಂ, ಗತಚ್ಛಾಯಶ್ಚಂದ್ರೋಬುಧಜನಇವ ಗ್ರಾಮ್ಯಸದಸಿ ।
ಕ್ಷಣಾತ್ ಕ್ಷೀಣಾಸ್ತಾರಾ ನೃಪತಯ ಇವಾನುದ್ಯಮಪರಾಃ, ನ ರಾಜನ್ತೇ ದೀಪಾದ್ರವಿರಹಿತಾನಾಮಿವ ಗೃಹಂ ॥

अभूत्प्राची पिङ्गा रसपतिरिव प्राप्तकनकं गतच्छायश्चन्द्रो बुधजन इव ग्राम्यसदसि ।
अणात्क्षीणास्तारा नृपतय इवानुद्यमपराः न राजन्ते दीपा द्रविणरहितानामिव गृहम् ॥

Hearing it Kalidasa went back, and when they appeared at court, he mentioned the stanza, and said that their castes could be inferred from the comparisons which they had used in describing sunrise, that the first was from the gold-smith caste, and the second, third, and fourth were from the Brahma, Kshatriya, and Vysya castes. The law-book, "Vivada-chandra", in use in Mithila, is by a learned woman, Lakshmi Devi. The Chinese traveller, Hiuen-tsang, writes admiringly of the scholarship of Princess Rajyeswari, sister of Emperor Harshadeva. Balambhatta, author of the learned commentary on the law-book of Bengal, "Mithakshara", was not a man, but a woman-scholar, Lakshmi-Devi. There is an unpublished Mahakavya in Sanskrit by a poetess of the court of Tanjore on whom the king had conferred the title "Madhura-vani" in recognition of her mellifluous poetry. There was Sanchiya Honnamma of the Mysore royal court, and Akkamahadevi, Andal, and Avvaiyar, who stand out prominent among the educated women of the past.

All these, mostly, were the products of education at home by their parents. Latterly, however, education having been taken out of the parents' hands, and Governments being unable to provide for more than 5 per cent of young women, education of women has become rather stagnant.

For that reason, and as Ministers and other spokesmen of Government frequently advocated the need for the public coming forward to start new schools to supplement Government's efforts, with the approval of the enlightened Director of Public Instruction, and at the request of parents, I ventured to found this High School for Girls, as a non-official effort to meet the growing problem. Last year the Fourth Form was started, and now there is the Fifth Form also. There are some 80 students on the roles coming from far and near in the city, most of them poor, all of them half free. The staff consists of one M.A., three lady B.Sc.'s, one lady B.A., and a lady music teacher. And instruction is given in English, Hindi, Canarese, Sanskrit, Tamil, Science, Mathematics, History, Domestic Science, Civics, and Music. In the absence of the usual Government grants, much of this has had to be honorary, on the Gokhale principle of service. It is hoped that the esteemable gentlemen in the Government will before long recognise that the institution is doing their own work, and grant it such aid as the rules provide, and that the wealthy men and women among the public will not be backward in that respect.

Your Highness, the students here pray daily to Goddesses Lakshmi and Saraswathi for the prosperity of the school. It is as if in answer to that prayer that Your Highness has so graciously condescended to bestow the honour of your benign presence on this occasion. I tender grateful thanks to Your Highness for this goodness and kindness. On behalf of the school, and on behalf of the women and men of the State, I beg to offer to Your Highness respectful congratulations on being the first lady in India to be appointed Raj-pramukh under the Constitution. We pray that God may grant to Your Highness health and happiness for long years and enable Your Highness to promote public welfare by charity and good deeds, and invoke His choicest blessings on His Highness The Maharaja and the Royal Family!

G. R. JOSYER,
DIRECTOR.

In conclusion, on behalf of the Founder, Sriman G. R. Josyer, Srimathi K. Lalithamma, B.A., B.T., offered respectful thanks to Her Highness for graciously condescending to Preside over the First Anniversary, and to the Palace, Police and Electric authorities for kindly co-operating to make the function a success.

With the singing of the National Anthem by the students and by the Palace band, the memorable function came to a close.

Before departure, Her Highness was graciously pleased to receive Mr. Josyer, and express her generous appreciation.

PRIZE-WINNERS

V Form

1. S. Vanamala:
   - English Recitation — 1st Prize
   - Music — 1st ,,
   - Film Hits — 1st ,,

   Mrs. ex-Justice R. Puttaraja Urs prize.

* * *

IV Form.

2. G. Sridevi:
   - English Recitation — 1st Prize
   - Sanskrit ,, — 1st ,,
   - Music — 1st ,,
   - Film Hits — 2nd ,,
   - Fancy Dress — 2nd ,,
   - Debate — 3rd ,,

   Sri Jyotisharatnam T. V. Narasimhachar prize.

* * *

V

3. Kannada Recitation.—
   - H. S. Savitramma: — 1st Prize
   - Dakshayini — 2nd ,,
   - M. N. Pushpa — 3rd ,,

* * *

IV Form

4. Kannada Recitation.—
   - H. V. Sarojamma — 1st Prize
   - U. R. Varijakshi — 2nd ,,
   - Vijayakumary — 3rd ,,

5. English Recitation:
   - J. Aravinda — 2nd ,,
   - S. Ratna Bai — 3rd ,,

   Mrs. J. B. Kumararadhya prizes.

* * *

6. Music:
   - U. R. Varijakshi — 2nd prize
   - A. Vatsala, Anantalakshmi, Rohini Bai — 3rd prize

   Mrs. Dr. M. C. Nanjappa of Davangere prizes.

* * *

7. Film Hits:
   - Rohini Bai — 1st prize
   - Narasamma — 3rd ,,

   Jayalakshmi Jewellery Mart prize.

* * *

8. Fancy Dress:
   - H. V. Sarojamma, J. Aravinda — 1st prize
   - M. N. Pushpa — 3rd ,,

   Brahmasri Ramaswamy Sastry prizes.

* * *

9. Memory Test:

IV Form.

- R. Vatsala — 1st prize
- Vijaykumari, Narasamma — 2nd ,,
- S. N. Shanti — 3rd ,,

Mrs. M. N. Srinivasan of Bangalore prizes.

V Form.

- C. Nirmala — 1st prize
- R. Parimala — 2nd ,,
- R. Sujaya — 3rd ,,

Mrs. Dy. Presidency Postmaster V. H. Naranappa of Madras prizes.

10. Musical Chair:
    - C. Nirmala — 1st Prize.
    - K. Saroja Bai — 2nd ,,
    - N. Susheela — 3rd ,,

    Mrs. B. S. Thandavamurthy prizes.

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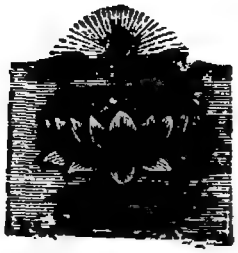

THE

RATIONALIST

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for the intelligent man, devoted to a rationalistic survey of all matters of Public interest, in the economic, commercial, and literary fields.

Proprietor & Editor : G. R. JOSYER, M.A., F.R.E.S.

Vol. XV No. 44] Monday 8—8—1955 [Price 0—1—6.

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Securities of the 5% Mysore Government Loan 1955 will be accepted at Rs. 100—8—0 per Rs. 100 of the fresh loan. On these interest at 5% will be paid up to 15—8—1955.

Applications for the loan will be received at the office of the Reserve Bank of India, at Bangalore, at the offices of the Bank of Mysore in the State, and elsewhere in the State in the Taluq Treasuries.

NATURE'S SECRET

The bees have won their bet with man. They are indeed superior to us in so far as they possess an absolute sense of time. This is the outcome of the experiment recently reported. The hive of bees trained in Paris to have their daily meal of sugar-water between 8-30 and 10-30 p.m., then rushed by air to New York in the interval between two meals, and there "resettled" in a room with precisely the same temperature and lighting conditions, did in fact ignore the five-hour Paris-New York defference in the time cycle of day and night, and swarmed out for feeding between 3-30 and 5-30 p.m. New York time, that is, while it was between 8-30 and 10-30 p.m. in Paris. In other words, they do not need the sun and the rotation of the earth to enable them to tell what time it is because—different from human beings and, as far as is known, all other creatures—they have indeed a "built-in time sense," as some scientists had long believed.

For this very reason, if *France Soir*, if the Paris newspaper with the largest circulation, can be trusted on its information, these by now famous 5,000 bees, whose trans-atlantic journey was in fact financed by the U.S. Office of Naval Research, may some day be responsible for further refinements in the modern arts of war and destruction. "This scientific observation," the paper reports, "has unsuspected ramifications of considerable military importance, ramifications surrounded with complete secrecy by the two scientists who conducted the experiments ..... It now remains to discover what that mysterious 'clock' of the bees is, where it is located and how it functions. Those most interested in finding this out are the American military research authorities. Why? one may ask.

"The answer is that electronics, now at the basis of the organization of a modern army, as well as of certain of its arms as also of its detecttion and tele-communications facilities, have also found their enemies in electronics .....which can block them..... It is in the secrets of nature that modern scientists believe they can find solutions for the most difficult technical problems. If, therefore, the bees have a mysterious 'clock'—be it in the form of an organ or of a chemical process—it is possible that its discovery can be applied to the production of ultra-secret clockwork, as useful for bombs as for the interplanetary journeys of tomorrow."

PONNANG-KANI

Ponnanghani is a creeper that is commonly cultivated in India. It can be obtained everywhere. This is a kalpa-moolikai. There is gold in this herb. He who eats daily this herb has a golden complexion. Hence the name Ponnangkani. "Pon" in Tamil means gold. Pon Aum, Kan, Nee, i.e. if you eat this you will see your body as lustrous as gold. This is an alternative and cooling. This is useful in eye diseases, diseases of corneal heat of the body and piles.

Boil this without salt and eat with butter for 40 days. All diseases of the eye will be cured.

The juice is useful as an Anupana. It is used in making copper oxide.

Take oil bath with the oil prepared out of this herb. Diseases of the eye will be cured.

Ponnankani is very beneficial for cough, asthma, fever, piles, gonorrhoea, syphilis, and intestinal worms.

Take one seer juice and ¼th seer of gingili oil. Boil the juice along with oil. When the juice is absorbed in the oil and the mixture reduced to ¼th seer, then strain. This can be daily rubbed on the head. It will give eye sight, memory and cool the brain.

Take ponnankani juice 2 tolas and mix equal part of carrot juice, add a little salt (Saindhava), and drink. It is useful in piles.

The following is the Foreword of a forthcoming publication by the International Academy of Sanskrit Research. It speaks for itself.—

SRINGARA-PRAKASA

FOREWORD

Only in India could a work of this kind remain unpublished for nearly a thousand years! Elsewhere writings are rushed to print before the ink is dry on the paper!

Maharaja Bhoja-Deva was an erudite and enlightened sovereign of Malava in Central India over 9 centuries ago. He wrote numerous works in Sanskrit, and has enjoyed almost mythical fame as a patron of men of letters. His "*Champu-Ramayana*" is one of the most mellifluous works in Sanskrit literature. His two "Saraswati-Kanthabharanas", on Grammar and on Poetics, rank him among the great masters of the science of Grammar and the science of Poetics.

Incidentally it may be observed that Sanskrit is the only language in the world, in which the science of Poetics has been developed with microscopic perfection. The reason is perhaps that Sanskrit is the oldest, the longest, and the greatest of world literatures, presenting a vast and variegated expanse for the literary star-gazer.

In that realm of literary science Bhoja-Deva has reached farther than any other thinker of ancient or modern times. Having dwelt over the subject in 'Saraswati-Kanthabharana' according to the accepted canons, he felt impelled to the conviction that, of all the rasas, Shringara, or Love, was the pre-eminent rasa contributive to literary excellence. The late Mahamahopadhyaya Professor S. Kuppuswamy Sastriar of Madras observes,—

"Sringara-Prakasa is a hitherto unpublished work on Alankara of an encyclopædic character. In this mammoth work King Bhoja endeavours to bring under literature and literary appreciation everything of importance in

Indian thought as embodied in Sanskrit writings, both Shastraic and non-Shastraic, and the method which Bhoja's massive mind adopts for this purpose is eclecticism of an all-comprehending type."

The manuscript came to light only about 1920 in the enlightened land of Malabar, when the Oriental Manuscripts Library, Madras, procured a transcript of an imperfect manuscript discovered there.

His Holiness Sri Yatirajaswamy of Melkote, in Mysore State, also came across a fragment, and pursuing his search came into possession of another copy of the same kind. He spent years in perfecting it, and about 1924 brought out 3 of its 36 Prakasas or chapters, 22, 23, and 24, in a sample edition.

It created a stir in the literary world. Erudite Dr. Ganganath Jha of the Allahabad University, went lyrical over it, and wrote,—

'शृङ्गारभावं नृपभोजनिर्मितं सम्मुद्रितं स्वामिवरेण्यवसतः ।
आस्वाद्य यांशेन समस्तबन्धसंस्वादनायोल्लसतीव मानसम् ॥'

Sri K. P. Jayaswal, Jurist and Sanskritist of Patna, wrote;—"I thank His Holiness The Yatiraja. Even the whole of India should thank him for publishing the शृङ्गारप्रकाश. I request that the publication of the *full work* should be expedited. The first and most beautiful verse 'अच्छिन्नमेखलं' is cited in *Sahitya-Ratnakara* of Dharmasuri. I feel proud that there are amongst my country-men such good writers as Yatiraja has shown himself to be by his introduction."

Dr. F. O. Schrader of Kiel, Germany, wrote, "Accept my sincere thanks for your valuable gift. Glancing over *Shringara-Prakasa* I find that this is in spite of all defects a very useful publication which will be helpful for the textual criticism of the classical kavyas and dramas as well as on many other occasions."

Working on the manuscript in Madras, in the 30's, Dr. V. Raghavan brought out in English an elaborate survey of the work as compared with other leading Sanskrit works on Poetics. In his words, "Bhoja's Shringara-Prakasa in 36 chapters, running to 1908 pages in foolscap size in manuscript, is one of the biggest works in Sanskrit literature, and the biggest in the whole field of Alankara Shastra. Besides Bhoja's contribution to Sanskrit Poetics, a thousand things of interest with reference to almost all branches of Sanskrit learning lie scattered in the 1908 pages of this magnum opus of king Bhoja."

But the publication of the original was not yet to be for over 2 decades. H. H. Sri Yatirajaswamy strove vainly to get it published by the Mysore or the Madras University. He passed away in 1943 at the ripe age of 84, and Sanskrit lost one of its most diligent and devoted votaries. His literary legatee, Sri A. Srinivasiengar, brought the manuscript to us, and by God's grace and some aid that the Government of Mysore under the Ministry of Sri K. C. Reddy was kind enough to grant, we are now presenting to the world the first volume consisting of eight chapters from the commencement, which are some of the longest in the remarkable work.

While H. H. The late Yatiraja Swamy had done a great deal in the way of editing the work and preparing it for the press, in the absence of his living presence, I have been greatly assisted by reputed Sanskritists, Mahavidwan S. Venkatacharyar and Vidwan N. Venkatanarasimhacharyar, both Professors of the Maharaja's Sanskrit College, and Sri G. S. Josyer, M.A., in the work of editing and publication.

The International Academy of Sanskrit Research is happy to discharge the debt which the Nation has owed to Maharaja Bhojadeva, as well as to place before the Nation what is an outstanding work in Sanskrit Poetics and literary criticism, and also an invaluable collection of literary and artistic gems in the vast field of Sanskrit and Prakrit literatures prior to 1040 A.D.

G. R. JOSYER.

LEARNING LANGUAGES

An Example

Who can lay claim to the title—the world's greatest linguist? Undoubtedly the Italian Cardinal Mezzofanti, who could speak eighty different languages and dialects, and could tell an Englishman from which county he came, or a Frenchman his native province, merely by his dialect!

Frequently foreign travellers mistook him for a fellow countryman when he spoke to them.

Born in Bologna, in 1774, he was educated at a charity school and worked in his father's carpentry shop. Above the shop a priest named Resphighi taught Latin and Greek to private pupils. Overhearing the lessons, the carpenter's son picked up an extensive knowledge of the two languages. Hearing of the lad's remarkable gift the priest offered to train him for a professional career. The boy chose to take holy orders.

In his first year at college he was appointed professor of Arabic. Before leaving the university he knew Latin, Greek, Hebrew, Arabic, Spanish, French, German and Swedish! On leaving the university he was given an appointment as a professor of oriental languages.

Lord Byron described him as ". . . a monster of language", and said, ". . . He ought to have existed at the time of the Tower of Babel as a universal interpreter!"

He could speak all the Slav languages, Irish, Welsh, Albanian and even the Romani of the Alps. He ministered at prisons in almost every habitable country. If there were prisoners whose tongue he did not know he was able to converse fluently with them within a week! He also acquired Lappish, all the Semitic tongues, Chaldee, Chinese, Sanskrit, Persian, Georgian, Armenian and Kurdish.

Sometimes people who spoke an obscure language would come to him for confession. Mezzofanti would ask for a delay of three weeks during which time he would master the tongue, however difficult.

In 1832 he gave way to the pressing invitations of the Pope to live in Rome. He was appointed to the post of librarian of the Vatican. He could now speak fifty languages, among them the Hamitic tongues, Coptic, Ethiopic, and Angalose.

He died in Rome in 1849, the world's greatest linguist and master of eighty languages!

ARM VERSUS TONGUE

There is, mercifully, one obvious advantage in being hard of hearing—you can't hear the blaring of your neighbour's radio through the wall, or many of the other hideous sounds that fill a modern city.

Sir Richard Paget, a barrister and scientist who has studied speech, says that in their own way the deaf are far more articulate than those who can speak. He is devising a special language for deaf people in which every sign represents a different word.

The arm, he claims, is 20,000 times more versatile than the tongue. With one hand alone more than 700,000 distinct signs can be made. Although eighty-six, he is working on his perfect sign language and should soon have it complete.

VICE-VERSA

A detective agency that specializes in tracing missing persons has been commissioned by more than 70,000 wives to find their husbands, but by only 15 husbands to find their wives!

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THE RATIONALIST

A Weekly

for the intelligent man, devoted to a rationalistic survey of all matters of Public interest, in the economic, commercial, and literary fields.

Proprietor & Editor : G. R. JOSYER, M.A., F.R.E.S.

Vol. XV No. 46] Monday 22—8—1955 [Price 0—1—6.

THE QUICKEST ACCELERATION!

From the early morning "Oh, for a little more sleep" feeling

TO

PULSATING ACTIVITY

IS

A 'FIVE MINUTE' COLD BATH

WITH

MYSORE SANDAL SOAP

And The Thrill Of It !!!

GOVERNMENT SOAP FACTORY,

BANGALORE.

"Member I.S.T.M.A."

SLEEPING HABITS

Sleeping habits among wild creatures vary far more than those of human beings. There may be a few eccentrics who sleep in queer positions and in queer places, but very few of them could sleep standing up-right.

Yet that is what many birds do. Small perching birds roosting at night in trees and bushes have their claws automatically locked by a reflex action as they clasp a perch. This prevents the bird from falling off when it is asleep.

Orang-utangs have the same device which prevents them from falling out of their tree-top nests as they sleep clinging to a strong branch with one or more hands.

Australian fregmouths sleep so soundly that you can pick them up and put them down again on their nightly perch without waking them.

On the other hand, some birds, particularly geese and waders, seldom go into a deep sleep at all. They are restless all night and, at the first suspicion of danger, will start flying around.

Gulls and plovers are also very light sleepers and frequently wake at night to fly round and call at intervals.

Sometimes gulls sleep on the water, as do ducks, swans and albatrossess. Such birds are of course endowed by nature with water-proof plumage which keeps them dry although they may sleep soundly on the waves.

Whales are said to be the only animals which get along with little or no real sleep. We cannot be sure of this since whales have never been fully studied, but small specimens kept in very large acquariums have been observed to swim round constantly all the hours of the clock, while whales at sea are known to be active by night and day.

It has been suggested that whales must keep on the move to keep their bodies warm in the icy seas where they live. Even so, it seems strange that they can exist without ever completely resting.

There are many ways of keeping warm at night in the wild. A bird will puff out its feathers to prevent its natural heat from escaping.

Small animals will sleep in a circle, all touching one another, heads inwards. Gorillas make a deep warm bed of mosses, sticks and leaves.

Although birds seldom make much of a bed, as it were, certain species like tits and wrens do crowd together a dozen or more at a time together to disused nests in the winter, ostensibly to keep warm.

Even ants smooth down a small surface to sleep on. Their night's rest lasts for about three hours, after which they get up, literally stretching themselves, and perform a slow opening of the jaws which must be the nearest thing to a yawn in the insect world.

Many animals perform thus on waking: just watch a cat stretch its muscles after a nap. Farmers know that a cow is ailing if it rises from rest or sleep wearily without stretching itself.

Solitary insects like wasps and butterflies choose warm snug places in which to sleep, perhaps in holes in trees or walls, or in a flower.

Elephants like to sleep on a mound which makes it easier for them to rise in the morning. Sometimes an elephant will sleep standing up, as horses do on occasion.

Elephants, dogs, cats, apes, horses and many other mammals obviously dream and have nightmares. The first-named may bellow and trumpet in anguish during such a dream.

Many birds roost in trees, but some prefer the ground, facing the wind, and occasionally exposed sites in an open field. Most mammals go to some kind of shelter, but hares sleep above ground on the grass with no overhead covering at all.

Birds like geese, gulls and starlings may travel many miles each evening to pack in their thousands in favourite roosting-spots, especially in winter.

Plantations, red-beds, mud flats and sand-banks are popular sleeping-sites, but starlings often congregate on buildings in towns in large numbers to roost in their noisy thousands on stonework and roofs.

MIND EROSION

Every human being is endowed with a limited and infinitely precious stock of attention-power; and life today is such that—unless the individual is singularly obstinate and cunning—this power of the mind may easily be dissipated or conventionalized by endless competitive demands. By newspapers, by electric lights, by telephone, by radio, by moving pictures, by aeroplane and motor-car and church and school and state, by a thousand appeals, admonitions and interruptions, the mind is assailed and distracted. We hear a good deal about the agricultural problem of soil erosion: hillsides denuded of fertile top-soil by the actions of streams, or great regions of rich wheat lands scoured off by dust storms. Surely not less serious is the matter of mind erosion: the dust storms of daily excitement and of continual triviality can easily blow away the sensitive top soil of the spirit.

ACCIDENT INSURANCE

Consternation was felt in insurance circles some years ago when £10,000 compensation was awarded in the case of Heaps v. *perrite*. Stress was laid on the injured man's total incapacity, his inability ever to fend again for himself, and constant need for personal attention. But such is the miracle of modern rehabilitation that Heaps now works as a full-time municipal gardener! He has been fitted with artificial hands.

To-day insurance companies must take bigger shocks in honouring their contracts. Awards up to £20,000 are now met.

In Gardner v. Railway Executive, £20,000 was awarded to recompense the accident victim for loss of both legs and other injuries. In Green v. Myton, the injured man received £16,000 as compensation for his internal injuries and paralysis.

This class of business for the insurance companies has proved, as the general manager of one firm states, "enormously without profit for the last six years." In fact, in relation to wages paid to employees in heavy industry, there was one claim in 1948 for every £150,000 of wages. In 1952, this had become one claim for every £87,000 of wages —a seventy-five per cent. increase of claims within the industries covered. More thorough methods of accident prevention can only, it is felt, seal this gap. Crippling economically, such accidents also deprive their sufferers of a normal life, for which no amount of money is really a recompense.

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The Rationalist

MEMORY

How good is your memory? Research by American scientists over a long period suggests that the memory of the average man and woman all over the world is improving and is likely to go on doing so.

The reasons for this are hard to explain. Memory is a most complicated business. We all find it easier to remember the things we find interesting than those that don't appeal to us.

Some people have a "seeing" memory, others a "hearing" memory. The power of memory, however, varies widely in different people and so does the ability to use it.

Very often a man who has a wonderful memory for faces, names and mathematics, has no memory at all for tunes, and finds it impossible to learn a foreign language.

Some experts say that on the whole women have better memories than men, but usually find it harder to forget things they don't want to remember! It requires a greater effort to erase something from the mind than to memorize it.

No idea that has ever been in the mind can ever be entirely forgotten, we are told. Like the elephant, man never forgets. But illness can interfere with the efficiency of our memories, and boredom and tiredness often prevent a man or woman recalling a name or an event. We've all said at one time or another, "it's on the tip of my tongue, but for life of me, I can't remember it. . . ."

Your memory can be your best friend. But it needs constant exercise. A good detective says that after five minutes in any room he shuts his eyes and can call to mind every detail there. Try it—and see how difficult it is!

The sense of smell can often conjure up memories. A Frenchman tried vainly for a long time to recall details of a certain important happening. Then, during a visit to Paris, he travelled by Metro, the French Underground.

"Immediately the whole scene I had not been able to remember came vividly to my mind," he said. "It had happened in a Canadian paper mill—and the smell of the French Metro is very like that of damp paper."

Trusting the memory serves to strengthen it, a London doctor said recently. He explained that it isn't wise to depend entirely on note-taking, for just as a limb that is never used will waste and become useless, so the memory becomes unreliable through lack of use.

DON'T FRET

Today, when each year we worry more and more about illness although we have less and less of it, there may be a moral for us in the attitude of an 80-year-old man who was killed by a lorry a few years ago. An autopsy showed that the old gentleman's lungs were scarred with healed tuberculosis lesions. His stomach showed signs of long-forgotten ulcers, his arteries were hardened, his kidneys damaged. He had had almost every disease in the book!

Yet his widow said he'd never had a day's illness in his life!. When feeling out of sorts he'd always believed he'd feel better next day. He hadn't fretted about aches and pains which would have made invalids out of others.

U NU ON AMERICA

"If we have no compunctions about criticising America where criticism is called for we should not hesitate to give praise where praise is due," Burmese Prime Minister U Nu told a home-coming news conference recently at Rangoon.

The Prime Minister gave his evaluation of the character and progress of the American people on his return from a world tour which included his first visit to the United States.

"I cannot dismiss the American people in a sweeping statement, because Americans are made up of many races who have brought their characteristics into the main stream," U Nu asserted. But he cited as outstanding traits American industriousness, love of liberty and generosity.

The Prime Minister said: "Americans are industrious whether they work in factories or in farms; they are luxury loving, they are generous to a fault: and they are freedom loving."

Expanding on this theme U. Nu said that a lot of mannual labour went into the production of one Ford motor car in 50 seconds. "Can such a feat be possible even with the best machinery, if people are not alert and hard-working?" he remarked.

In the Imperial Valley of California, where the heat was comparable to that in Burma's Shwebo District during April, U Nu related that men stood in the field hatless and worked strenuously with their hands. "Can a lethargic nation achieve the tremendous productivity of America?" he asked.

As for American generosity, U Nu said history would bear witness to the fact that never before had so much been given away to so many.

The Prime Minister said American generosity was individual as well as through the Government. He related that at the Mark Hopkins Hotel in San Francisco he discovered that the barber there had given his life savings to a church. This so touched U Nu that he himself donated $100 to the same church.

Love of freedom, said U Nu, is ingrained in Americans.

Reporters' questions came thick and fast over the Prime Minister's impressions of America in comparison to Communist regime. U Nu replied simply that conditions in America were "very advanced."

Asked about his accomplishments of the tour, U Nu said that the world had been made more aware of the struggle which Burma had undertaken, alone and unaided, against local disorders which at one time threatened the existence of the State, and which had led many to believe that Burmese independence would not endure. He said that Burma had never received adequate publicity on the part she has played not only in putting down the insurrection but in bringing about a quick recovery of her economy and rehabilitating herself after the war.

The Prime Minister also disclosed that a mission from the International Bank for Reconstruction and development will soon visit Burma to discuss details of a loan to finance industrial projects.

He said he would visit the Soviet Union later this year.

"You know," he concluded "since November 1954 I have been on the move. I have yet to visit the Arab countries. If they also want me I shall be happy to visit them next year."

LEFT-HANDED ?

How lop-sided are you? Willy Pegue thought himself as straight as anyone, until scientists selected him as the first guinea-pig among 5,000 students at the University of New Mexico. They stripped him and measured him with callipers, anthropometers and other devices and practically proved Willy a "crook."

At least, his left leg is longer than his right, his right shoulder lower than the left one, his right hand broader than the left. Even his nose tilts slightly to the right and the right side of his face carries more flesh than the left side.

Yet lop-sided Willy is considered normal, for subsequent experiments have proved that everyone has a decided pitch either to the left or right. In one test, not one of 10,000 people could show a perfect pair of ears. And a study of dental patients in the 30-40 age group shows that tooth decay had invariably attacked them lop-sidely.

One person in every ten is lefthanded, but oddly enough the percentage is nearly twice as high among twins. Ears hearing with perfect unison are a commonplace among teenagers, but as age increases one ear tends to predominate in picking up sound. Experience in the optical trade shows that eyes are always of varying strength.

Lopsidedness is found throughout nature. Most lobsters are lefthanded. So are water-snails. Charged by a stampeding elephant in a Rhodesian national park, a cameraman escaped only because the elephant has a preference for using the left tusk—and the cameraman had leapt to the right.

Don't worry, left-handers! Leonardo da Vinci, the world's greatest artist, was a sinistral, as left-handers are technically called. Charles Chaplin played the violin left-handed in "Limelight." In the United States a publisher is even printing schoolbooks with the words reading from right to left, to give left-handed children extra time for development and adjustment!

LEARNING CHILDREN

Mrs. Jones was being honoured at a public banquet for rearing five eminently successful sons without assistance after her husband died. The toastmaster introduced her and it was suggested that she should explain her secret in rearing the boys so successfully.

Beaming, Mrs. Jones stood up and said: "Mr. Chairman, the secret lies in an occasional pat on the back. It gets positive results if administered young enough, often enough, low enough, and hard enough!"

ಯಜುರುಪಾಕರ್ಮ	೦–೪–೦.
ಯಜುಸ್ಸಂಧ್ಯಾವಂದನೆ	೦–೪–೦.
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EVA MAHAL

Work began recently in Argentina on what will be the world's highest monument—a massive mausoleum to Eva Peron, wife of President Peron.

The body of Eva Peron, who died in July, 1952, will be permanantly on view at the base of a 450 ft.-high marble tower.

When completed it will be even bigger than the Statue of Liberty which stands at the entrance to New York Harbour and is, from foundation to torch tip, 305 ft. 6 in. high.

Eva's tower will even rival the pyramids of Egypt (450 ft. high). It is said that President Peron, when he put the first scoop of mortor in place in Buenos Aires, expressed the hope that the new monument will outlast the pyramids!

Colosssal statues and monuments have been made to commemorate all through history. Nobody has ever found out just how big the great brass statue of Apollo—known as the Colossus of Rhodes—really was, but it was certainly one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World.

Tradition says it straddled the harbour at Rhodes. It stood only sixty years. Then it was toppled over by an earthquake which broke it off at the knees.

Nine centuries later an enterprising scrap dealer bought up the lot cheap and took his bargain to Alexandria on 900 camels.

Men equipped with pneumatic drills had to be used by the sculptor who carved out of the solid rock of Mount Rushmore, in South Dakota's Black Hills, memorial likenesses of four great American presidents: Washington, Jefferson, Lincoln and Theodore Roosevelt.

Because the mountain had been standing forty million years, he assumed when he began his great task that the carvings would "outlast eternity." Then a geologist told him that the mountain's granite would erode an inch every 100,000 years!

The sculptor promptly added another inch to Washington's nose.!

ANIMALS WEEP

Country folk living deep in the heart of Essex will long remember the story of the swan with the broken heart.

Some time ago he was found, amid the weeds of a disused sandpit, standing guard beside his snowy-white mate.

She had died and he was obviously grief-stricken!

Kindly animal welfare experts called to the spot feared that he would pine to death. Said one: "A swan has only one mate and is faithful to her always."

In the end the broken-hearted swan was persuaded to leave the spot for a spell in hospital to help him to forget. It was then planned to set him free on a big lake in in another part of the country far from the disused pit and its memories.

Naturalists say that many creatures do experience grief, and that some even shed tears. Some years ago there was a giraffe at Sydney Zoo which wept for several days following the sudden death of its mate.

The founder of an animal welfare organization declared, "I can unhesitatingly say that animals do sometimes die *from grief*." She quoted the case of a monkey which, having lost its mate, was in a state of collapse.

It would eat nothing and just sat brooding over its loss. Then, after a few hours, it died.

But if animals feel grief, some also have a sense of humour. A famous observer of animal conduct maintained that many can actually laugh.

"Some dogs raise the upper lip and show their teeth clearly with a curious grinning expression," he said. "When this is accompanied by wagging of the tail, it may be regarded as what, in a human being, would be called a broad smile."

An orang-outang at London Zoo used to show every sign of pleasure when its practical jokes excited laughter. Gilbert White, the great naturalist, told of a pet magpie which had a laugh so hearty, joyous and natural that no one who heard it could help joining in.

HELPFUL AND INSPIRING

Cats are not, perhaps, such apt pupils as dogs. But they have, on occasion, been trained to do a useful job of work. As cat lovers will agree, a well-treated cat will respond intelligently.

Before the war the authorities in a suburb of Berlin organized a "cat post", and cats taken to an office three or four miles from home delivered letters regularly.

During the war, at least one cat distinguished himself and earned the gratitude of millions. In the winter of 1942, during the battle of Stalingrad, a group of soldiers wished to send messages to their comrades about enemy gun emplacements.

No human could survive the barrage that swept no-man's-land. But a cat has nine lives. So important despatches were tied to Mourka, who ran the fiery gauntlet, and so saved many lives!

For this act Mourka was made a citizen of Stalingrad and became a charge upon the authorities. Even 'The Times' praised him in a special leader, which concluded: "Mourka has shown himself worthy of Stalingrad, and whether for cat or man there can be no higher praise.

So remember when you see pussy curled on your best cushion or sharpening his claws on the legs of a period chair that he has hidden qualities.

But for Nelson, Sir Winston Churchill's cat, the conduct of the war might have been less efficient. The ex-Prime Minister is devoted to cats of all breeds. When in 1948 he was recovering from a bout of influenza, an important visitor came into his room and found a large black cat resting on his feet.

"This cat," said Sir Winston, "does more for the war effort than you do. He acts as a hotwater bottle and saves fuel and power." The animal was addressed as "my dear," and always travelled in his master's car.

Once when Sir Eric Maclaglan, Director of the Victoria and Albert Museum, was lunching at Chequers, he found that the chair next to his was reserved for Nelson, who sat sedately through the meal. Sir Winston also has another pet, a marmalade tom known as Mr. Kat, who will go down to posterity in some delightful drawings by Sir William Nicholson.

Mr. Harry Batsford, the publisher, was devoted to cats and said, "Their grateful and friendly affection has been one of my chief solaces." He set aside £1,000 to be used for articles or propaganda, "especially to combat the pernicious idea that cats can feed themselves and that they must live on what they catch; that is, that they hunt and mouse better if starved." It's the well-fed cat that is a good mouser, Mr. Batsford maintained.

A number of well-known men keep not one, but many cats. Michael Joseph, another publisher, has fourteen; and the late Louis Wain, whose drawings of cats delighted us about the turn of the century, had a house in the country with spacious grounds in which some thirty to forty cats frolicked and gambolled. They were his source of inspiration.

Lord Gingall also had a passion for cats. In Kileen Castle, Ireland, special suites were reserved for more than fifty of his pets. They all knew and loved him, and when he called to them, came leaping and scurrying, and rubbed themselves against his legs.

Sir Compton Mackenzie, who once lived on Jethou, Channel Islands, kept a dozen Siamese cats there. They had the freedom of the place.

The British Museum used to have a black cat named Mike who was famous the world over. No scholar looked half as wise as Mike, who belonged to Sir wallis Budge, keeper of Egyptian antiquities. When Sir Wallis had retired, he used to return once each week to deposit six pence for luxuries for Mike's larder.

(Continued on page 6.)

The Rationalist

SPECIALISE

There are so many talented men and women in the world that one wonders why they do not all reach the top, and how it is that so many ordinary people succeed.

One of the many answers to this is—'Specialization.'

Emerson once said, "If a man writes a better book, preach a better sermon or make a better mousetrap than his neighbour, though he build his house in the woods the world would make a beaten path to his door!"

When she was a girl on the prairies of Canada, Cora Hind was fascinated by the fields of golden corn, and would estimate how many bushels each would bring in. She was right so often that she made it her hobby. As she grew older farmers began to ask for her forecasts and were willing to pay for them.

Eventually she became so expert that she travelled up and down the country in her private Pullman car, gazing out of the window, estimating the wheat crop. She did a job no school or book could teach. She did it better than any one else, and commanded her price.

Dr. Alexic L. Romanoff, Professor of Embryology of Carnell University started life as a painter, but couldn't make a go of it.

He worked his passage to China and from there to the United States where he took a temporary job at the Long Island Agricultural Institute.

One day Professor James E. Rice saw some of his drawings and offered him a scholarship at Cornell University. There he turned from art to embryology. Eggs fascinated him, so he determined to learn all about them.

He took his degree, and in the course of further researches smashed and investigated 150,000 eggs—from chickens' to alligators.' He revolutionized the business of incubation, coated eggs with plastic so that they could be kept much longer without going bad, and helped to make chickens healthier.

After some twenty years he set down his knowledge in a book called "The Avian Egg" which became a best seller in scientific circles. Today Romanoff is the world's foremost expert on eggs.

It is grand to be the acknowledged expert in your area on any subject. It means not only a sure income, but immense prestige. When the United Nations wanted a man to take charge of the world's food operations they turned to Lord Boyd Orr: when Mr. Roosevelt wanted advice and information about the right kinds of grasses to check soil erosion, he sent to Britain for Sir George Stapleton, the world's foremost authority on grasses.

These men didn't become world authorities overnight. They worked for years and specialized. So can you!

ಯಜುರುಪಾಕರ್ಮ	೦–೪–೦.
ಯಜುಸ್ಸಂಧ್ಯಾವಂದನೆ	೦–೪–೦.

ವಿಶಿಷ್ಟಾದ್ವೈತಸಾರ

"ಚಿಕ್ಕದೇವರಾಜಬಿನ್ನಪಂ" ದಿವ್ಯಗ್ರಂಥದಮೇಲಿನ ಉಪನ್ಯಾಸಮಾಲೆ. ೦—೪—೦.

HUMAN WONDERS

Doctors in Melbourne, Australia, have been trying to discover why a 11-month-old baby has never cried. Gregory Eddy, who weighed five pounds at birth, just gurgles with delight.

Even when he falls he is amused and has a chortle. He has three brothers and a sister—all of whom have cried quite normally from birth.

Equally perplexing is the case of an Italian baby, Gaultiero Dapor, who since birth has never slept more than 10 minutes a day. To all apperances Gaultiero is a perfectly normal child, but all day and all night he is simply brimming with life and vitality.

Medical experts who have examined him say they cannot see any reason why he should not sleep normally.

Generally speaking, babies follow a set pattern of development, but there are always those who are ahead of their time or don't stick to the rules.

At the age of seven weeks James Roberts, of Wisconsin, had so much hair that he had to have a haircut. A Manchester baby was born with a full set of front teeth and followed this up a month later by cutting his back teeth!

At the age of six months little Edwin Rennison, of Los Angles, made his debut in the world as an acrobat! He could stand on his head, do flips in the air, swing on a bath-room shower, and stand on his hands!

But he simply refused to show off in front of visitors unless his parents first gave him an advance payment of his bottle of milk.

Even Edwin's stupendous progress pales into insignificance, however, when compared with the achievements of Christian Heinecker. Within a few hours of his birth in Germany he started to talk!

Christian went on to become a real prodigy. He knew the Bible at the age of two years, and had a reasonable knowledge of Greek, Latin, French, history and geography when he was three years old!

But babies have caused far greater shocks to their parents and medical authorities. Imagine the consternation that arose when a baby girl at Knoxville, Tennessee, was born with a seven-inch-long tail!

The case was not unique. At least 25 authentic cases of babies born with tails are known to medical science!

Far more uncommon was the astonishing instance of a young American boy who had mirrored in his eyes two separate letter—"J" in the left and "D" in the right. Oddly enough they were the initials of the boy's name, decided upon by his parents before his birth!

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(*Continued from page 3.*)

Dogs will take to almost anyone who throws them a stick; not so cats. You have to court a cat to win his favour, but once he decides to like you he will be as faithful as any hound.

Samuel Butler used to adopt stray cats and once wrote: "No, I will not have a Persian cat; it is undertaking too much responsibility. I must have a cat whom I find homeless, wandering about, and to whom, therefore, I am under no obligation."

Even Bernard Shaw, who was no sentimentalist, confessed he could never pass a cat without stroking him. Henry James wrote with a cat on one shoulder. And Antonio Sacchini, Italian composer of more than forty operas, went one better. A favourite cat sat on each soulder as he composed at the piano. Without them he felt quite lost.

Dickens was another cat lover and owned a deaf cat who sat beside him when he wrote. And when the cat had had enough writing for one night, he used to put out his paw as a gentle hint, and extinguish the candle!

One of the most unlikely of all cat lovers was that dictatorial man, Samuel Johnson. With Hodge, his cat, sitting on his shoulder, he and Boswell—who detested cats—would go down to the market place, where at the fish stalls Johnson would feed Hodge with oysters.

The Grand Coulee Dam in America would have taken longer to build had not a cat assisted the engineers. They wanted to get an electrical cable through a long narrow, winding pipe and could find no way of doing it.

Eventually a string was tied to the tail of a cat belonging to one of the engineers, and he was persuaded to make his way through the pipe. A cable was then tied to the string and hauled through from the other end.

Without that cat's help the side of a hill would have had to be blasted.

So bear with pussy even if you don't go as far as the famous Dr. Liston who used to introduce his guests solemly to his cat at formal dinner parties!

RETIREMENT?

We can be sure that Sir Winston Churchill, although no longer Britain's Prime Minister, will remain busy in his retirement. He is over eighty, but he is planning to do much more painting than he found time to do while at Downing Street, and he will certainly write more books.

Like many other great men before him, Sir Winston believes that steady work at something that you like doing is a great life-prolonger. He is already considering plans for improvements in the gardens at Chartwell, his Kent home, and may even revive his earlier hobby of bricklaying there, says a London Correspondent.

An almost unlimited list of famous people shows clearly that old age retirement need not mean decline. The artist Titian died at ninety-nine, not of old age, but the plague. Many of his finest works were painted after he was eighty!

Mr. Gladston was still Britain's Prime Minister at eighty-three, and always loved work. He once told a friend that he owed much of his longevity to the fact that he took a short walk every day, and gave thirty-two bites to every morsel of food he ate!

Verdi composed his "Te Deum" at eighty-five. Benjamin Franklin wrote his famous" "Autobiagraphy" after he was eighty! Goethe finished his immortal "Faust" when he was eighty-two. Thomas Hardy was an active poet in his eighties!

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FINNISH CIVILIZATION

Finland, the little republic that stands at the top of the world, has many meanings for many people. It means the nation that pays its debts. It means Paavo Nurmi, the "Flying Finn," who in the 1920's ran everything from the mile to the Marathon and set up 24 world records. It means the Winter War of 1939, when a handful of heroic Finns stopped the massed armies of Soviet Russia at the eastern border and yielded finally to an armistice but did not surrender. It means Jean Sibelius, ranked already in his lifetime as one of history's great composers, whose music transmutes and communicates the very essence of Finland.

The qualities here embodied—integrity, endurance, determination, courage, independence, deep feeling for nature and art—exist in varying degrees in every Finn. They are the basic elements of the Finnish character, which is expressed in their word *sisu*.

Sisu is indomitable, highhearted courage that carries one beyond natural capacity—a kind of spiritual force that crashes the physical barrier. All true Finns must have *sisu*; it is the measure of their pride and self respect.

They tell of the Finish woman who, when she was asked, "Where did you get your *sisu*?" answered, "From my grandmother. When I was a little girl I had a terrible toothache, and Grandmother said, 'Don't cry—just ache right back at it, twice as hard. You'll win, you'll see.' And I did."

The tough Finnish character is the product of many stern and inexorable factors: geography, climate, topography, political pressures. The country is a continual challenge to its four million citizens. Glaciers scraped the land clean, leaving only a thin skin of poor soil with primitive rock breaking through.

Finland's position on Earth's ball means a long, cold, dark winter. (In the northern reaches of the country there is uninterrupted night from late December to mid-February.) But in the summertime the thermometer reads about 65° F., and the air is like champagne. Then the solitude and silence of the country, the miles of deep green forests set with sapphire lakes make clear the music of Sibelius and the character of the Finns.

This is a land of trees. From plane or car one looks out on timber, timber, timber. Practically nowhere is one out of sight of the tall pines; even the modern blocks of flats on the outskirts of Helsinki stand in forest. Timber finishes 85 per cent of finland's exports to the West.

Finland, the first country to conduct a uniform and simultaneous survey of all forest resources, third to hold an international forestry conference, is among the world leaders in forest culture. Today, whoever cuts trees must replant with timber or crops. If an owner does not take care of his forest land according to the law, the government will do so for him—and send him the bill!

Despite poor soil and short growing season, about 40 per cent of the Finnish people are farmers. Most of them have worked out a balance based on at least three parts forest to one part farm. The farm feeds them; the forest provides house, fuel and money.

There are no social distinctions among Finns, no class barriers to jump over going up. A good share of Finland's statesmen have come from poor, hard-working families. Take the present government: President Paasikivi's father ran a grocery shop; Prime Minister Kekkonen is the son of a farm overseer; Minister of the Interior Vaino Leskinen is the son of a carpenter; Foreign Minister Johannes Virolainen was a Karelia farm boy.

Even more unusual, there are no class distinctions to prevent a downward skid. If you are caught driving your car after *one* drink,

you go to gaol, whether you're plumber or president. Years back, one very senior official was stopped after he had had "one for the road." Instead of using the influence of his office to get exonerated, he sent in his resignation, publicly, first thing next morning!

Finnish women hold a unique position. They have shouldered men's burdens while the men were away fighting—and Finnish men have been fighting off and on for about 800 years, either for Sweden or against Russia or both. Eighty-five per cent of Finland's pharmacists, 77 per cent of her dentists and 21 per cent of her doctors are women. All tram conductors and sleeping-car porters are women, as are all barbers. Many a man has married the woman he first met when she lathered his face!

So many men have been killed in Finland's wars that there are almost as many single women and widows as there are married women. Lovely Finnish women have paid a heavy price, but they'd still rather be manless than Russian.

Finns have always felt superior to Russians, high or low. In 1809 they began a century-long determined struggle against Russianization. Physically powerless to revolt—the Russians allowed them no arms—the Finns channelled their passions into education and organization for freedom. The first step towards independence was the teaching of Finnish as a written language.

The Finnish language is one of the world's philological freaks. It has no connection with Greek, Latin, Teutonic, Slavic or any of the familiar Western root sources. In its origins it relates to early Magyar (Hungarian), but there is no present resemblance.

For over 2,000 years this rhythmic tongue had been spoken, sung and chanted by the Finns, but it was practically non-existent in written form. Now this mellifluous vernacular, which sounds more like incantation than communication, was to become the binding stuff of the nation. Men and women, old and young, dedicated themselves to the study of Finnish. Whoever wasn't learning the language was teaching it. Students issued and distributed "Penny Libraries," and sponsored lectures and reading clubs. An Adult Education Society was founded.

To dampen this national feeling the Czar ordered that every Finn must learn Russian; it must be taught in all schools at least seven hours a week. And so it was—Finnish style! In every school a few pupils were taught Russian; the others spent their time on Finnish. When Russian inspectors appeared to check on progress, the teacher would ask questions in Russian of the entire class—and every hand would shoot into the air. The few who could answer properly would raise right hands; most raised their left. The teacher always called on a right-handed pupil and the inspectors were satisfied.

Gradually Russia's stranglehold tightened more. In 1899 the freedoms of press, speech and assembly were suppressed. Immediately, volunteer fire brigades, sports clubs, co-operatives—every non-political cover for group meetings—multiplied.

(To be continued.)

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HIDING MONEY

Forgetfulness has probably cost people more money than anything else. A short time ago Mr. R. H. Hyslop, of Blackpool, attended an auction sale and bid ten shillings for a metal trunk, although it was old and rusty. It contained some junk, but he was more interested in the trunk than in its contents. He eventually obtained it for twelve shillings.

At home he tipped the junk out and painted the trunk. Later his eight-year-old son was scratching among the papers which had been in the trunk and came up with an old handbag. In it he found two £5 and four £1 notes and five half-crowns.

It is amazing the number of people who put money away for a rainy day and then forget it. Recently a Taunton, Somerset, furniture store took a load of used furniture in part exchange for a new lot of furniture. The old stuff included an ancient chest.

Minutes before the shop closed the owner of the old furniture arrived in a dither and asked to examine the old chest. He ripped out the top drawer—and from it took £600 in £1 notes and some securities!

Mrs. Pauline Baard, of Germiston, South Africa, needed an old box in which to pack her husband's collection of books when they were moving. A dealer wanted thirty shillings for one, but she offered £1, and he accepted.

When the chest was delivered she found it contained a pile of papers and other rubbish dating back to the early 1900s. Unwilling to leave this junk in the house she was vacating, she turned it out to be placed in a refuse bin—and found a small metal money-box at the bottom of the chest. It contained £600 in gold sovereigns and old bank-notes!

The oddest discovery, however, was made last year by an East-bourne woman who bought secondhand beds for her three sons.

The next day her youngest son, aged six years, complained that he had slept badly because there was a lump in his mattress. It turned out to be an old wallet containing twenty £1 notes and three florins! As the owner was unknown the woman was permitted to keep the money!

SLEEP EXPERT

Well, we have heard of many odd ways of wooing sleep, but the one related by an American writer beats them all.

It appears that a few weeks ago an income tax official in North Carolina received a letter which read: "I owe you 300 dollars and haven't been able to sleep as a result. I'm enclosing 100 dollars. If I still can't sleep, I'll send you the balance next week."

Sending the 100 dollars apparently cured the man's insomnia, for he hasn't sent the rest!

There's a "slumber specialist" living in California who guarantees to put anybody to sleep, and most of his work is done over the telephone.

Victims of insomnia ring him up at all hours. He talks quietly, slowly in silk-toned voice, using subtle suggestions and even arguments to put their minds at ease so that they can sleep. Sometimes he puts on a soothing gramophone record for the benefit of the sufferer. That usually does the trick.

The expert himself has no regular sleep habits, we are told, but because he is up most nights he relaxes during the day. His wife complains she gets too much relaxation.

"I get sleepy even by merely listening to my husband curing people's insomnia over the "phone," she says. So, sometimes, do our dinner guests. They fall asleep over their after-dinner coffee!"

SULEIMAN'S RUBY

Somewhere in Britain today, perhaps scarcely noticed in a cottage parlour, or perhaps half-buried in attic dust and cobwebs, is a china cat worth £100,000.

May be it has been resting for years on your mantlepiece. Maybe it's lying chipped and forgotten at the back of a tool-shed. If it's a comfortably recumbent cat, the tail wrapped around the forepaws, yellowish coffee in colour, if it's eight inches high from base to ear tip and if there's a small X on the underside, may be the money is yours!

Above all, look at the eyes, crimson and glinting. Are they merely glass beads . . . or are they rubies?

Two blood-red rubies disappeared from the harem of Sulaiman the Magnificent 400 years ago. The Turkish favorite, who had worn them in her earrings, wrs strangled in her sleep. Her slayer tore the jewels roughly from her ears and made good his escape.

Then they are said to have reappeared at the court of Louis XV of France, embellishing a rich necklace which adorned the charms of the beautiful Madame Pompadour. Afterwards they were sold to a Russian nobleman and passed from one wealthly hand to another until—just sixty years ago—they adorned the buxom lady of a rich Berlin industrialist.

One night, for the second time in their history, the rubies were stolen. The thief's method of entry—over the rooftops and through a skylight—pointed to Klaus Gudden, a listed jewel thief.

Police spies reported that he had shown the glittering rubies to a confederate. When the police pounced there ensued a rooftop chase and Gudden was shot dead. But the rubies were never found.

Insurance investigators probed every detail of Gudden's life. It was three years, however, before they heard of his visits to a pottery factory near his home. The factory specialized in china cats with red-beaded eyes and, Gudden had ordered the figure of a cat to be specially prepared and fitted with "beads" of his own.

The figure was marked with a small X to distinguish it from others in the Batch. But when Gudden failed to return, the cat was included in a factory consignment of almost identical cats shipped to England.

In that country the insurance detectives again took up the trail. They visited import warehouses, china shops and scores of private homes. But the ruby-eyed cat was never retrieved. It may have been smashed long ago and consigned to a dustbin. But may be this old glazed cat is still in existence, serenely keeping its secret, the world's strangest hidden treasure!

ಯಜುರುಪಾಕರ್ಮ	೦–೪–೦.
ಯಜುಸ್ಸಂಧ್ಯಾವಂದನೆ	೦–೪–೦.
ವಿಶಿಷ್ಟಾದ್ವೈತಸಾರ	
"ಚಿಕ್ಕದೇವರಾಜವಿನ್ನಪಂ" ದಿವ್ಯಗ್ರಂಥದಮೇಲಿನ ಉಪನ್ಯಾಸಮಾಲೆ.	೧—೪—೦.
Life of Saint Anantarya. in English and Hindi.	1—0—0.

FEATS OF SURGERY

Fish swam swiftly to and fro in the world's strangest surgery—a giant tank at Palos Verdes, California—a short time ago while a surgeon with special breathing apparatus performed a delicate eye operation on Charlie, a myopic bat ray weighing fifty pounds.

Charlie had accidentally blinded himself by banging too vigorously on the glass wall of the tank, which is known as an oceanarium.

A crowd gathered to watch and to hear the eye surgeon, Dr. George Blasdel, give a running commentary on the operation over a public address system.

Fascinated, they saw Charlie, under an anæsthetic, lying strapped to a small operating table laden with weights. The surgeon wore a special lens on his faceplate to correct underwater distortion, and a diver stood by with a tray of surgical instruments.

Lives of many creatures are now saved yearly by surgical operations which were once thought impossible.

Like children, animals are always swallowing things they shouldn't. At one London animals' hospital recently a cat, which had swallowed a hatpin nearly six inches long, was operated upon successfully while another patient, a small terrier weighing only seven pounds which had swallowed a piece of lead pipe two inches long, waited his turn patiently.

an X-ray photograph once revealed that a dog had become a "money-box"; an operation brought to light nine pennies and a halfpenny. A Blenheim spaniel which was the victim of a road accident was fitted with a false leg and a false paw. The leg was made of silver covered with leather and had a flexible joint which the dog quickly learned to use.

False teeth for animals are now no novelty. One of the first complete sets was made for a favourite dog belonging to the late King George V.

Snake surgery can be tricky, bul it is usually quite successful. At the London Zoo as long ago as 1924 a deadly snake suffering from abscess in the jaw was operated on.

The patient was a green mamba, that terror of the African forest which lies in wait for its victims amid the branches of trees. A specially-designed box was used as an operating theatre so that the surgeon could work in comparative safety.

The protesting reptile was booked into the box and then a noose was inserted through an aperture and manipulated over its head. The noose was pulled tight and with the patient thus secured the operation was performed successfully!

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FACTS ABOUT ISLAM

Not long ago a Moslem visitor in America was shown a mosaic in a New York church and told, "See! We appreciate your propbet too." But, in the mosaic, Jesus, Moses and Buddha were shown seeking men's souls with reason and light. Mohammad was shown with a sword, offering conversion or death!

Later he saw a film in which brave and holy crusaders were shown fighting craven Moslems for possession of the Christian city of Jerusalem. The crusaders appeared as educated, sensitive men, the Moslems as illiterate brutes!

A newspaper carried an account of Mohammad's lead coffin, which, according to legend, hovers mysteriously somewhere between heaven and earth. The news story naturally cast ridicule on such a belief.

In several discussions the visitor heard his religion characterized as "sumptuous," "voluptuous," "sybaritic" and "pleasure-loving."

At a public meeting a speaker said as a joke, "Well, if the mountain will not come to Mohammad, Mohammad will have to go to the mountain. That happens to many would-be prophets." The audience chuckled.

Worst of all, wherever he went, this man was called a "Mohammedan," and his religion was referred to as "Mohammedanism." These are two of the most unfortunate words one can use to describe this powerful religion.

Let us see why these experiences would be so offensive to a believer in Islam.

THE FOUNDER: Mohammed, the inspired man who founded Islam, was born about A.D. 570 at Mecca. Orphaned at birth, he was always particularly solicitous of the poor and the needy, the widow and the orphan, the slave and the down-trodden. At 20 he was already a successful businessman, and soon became director of camel caravans for a wealthy widow. When he reached 25 his employer, recognizing his merit, proposed marriage. Even though she was 15 years his senior, he married her, and as long as she lived he remained a devoted husband.

By 40 this man of the desert had secured for himself a most satisfying life: a loving wife, fine children and wealth. Then, Moslems believe, in a series of dramatic and terrifying events, he began to receive through the Archangel Gabriel a revelation of God's word.

Like almost every major prophet before him, Mohammed fought shy of serving as the transmitter of God's word, sensing his own inadequacy. But the angel commanded, "Read." So far as we know, Mohammed was hardly able to read or write, but he began to dictate those inspired words which would soon revolutionize a large part of the earth: "There is but one God."

Mohammed's message infuriated those rich Arabs whose faith required many idols, and he and his few followers were driven from Mecca, his home. Forced now to fight in defence of the freedom of conscience which he preached, he became an accomplished military leader. Although he repeatedly went into battle outmanned and outspeared as much as five to one, he won some spectacular victories.

Later he became head of the State, and the testimony even of his enemies is that he administered wisely. The wisdom he displayed in judging intricate cases became the basis for the religious law that governs Islam today. In his final years he was invited to become a dictator or a saint, but he rejected both temptations, insisting that he was an average man to whom God had sent another of His periodic messages to the world.

By the force of his extraordinary personality, Mohammed revolutionized life in Arabia and throughout the Middle East. He preached a religion dedicated to one God. He lifted women from the bondage in which desert

custom held them and preached general social justice.

Moslems think it particularly ironic when Mohammed is charged by Western writers with having established a voluptuous religion. Among drunkards he abolished alcohol, so that even today all good Moslems are tectotallers. Among the lazy he ordained individual ritual prayers five times each day. In a nation that revelled in feasting he instituted a most rigorous daytime fast lasting a full month each year.

Western critics have based their charges of voluptuousness mainly on the question of women. Before Mohammed, however, men were encourged to take innumerable wives; he limited them to four only, and the Koran is explicit that husbands who are unable to maintain strict equality between two or more wives must confine themselves to one.

A widespread misunderstanding arises from Mohammed's promise of paradise. In a land of blistering drought and sandstorms he predicted that evil men would suffer the tormenting fires of hell, whereas good men would be transported to a perpetual paradise of cool breezes, comforting streams and beautiful houris.

Western imaginations, unfamiliar with this last word, defined it by analogy with one of the ugliest words in English and jumped to the conclusion that Mohammed's paradise was to be a sexual debauch. They were wrong. A houri is a fair-skinned, black-eyed woman created from musk and and spices, incredibly beautiful, *and perpetually virgin.*

Last summer I stood on the edge of an Asian desert with one of Islam's greatest philosophers, and he said, "Today much effort is being spent to prove that Mohammed's paradise was only symbolic. Wise men explain away everything. But let me tell you this. I have lived my whole life faithful to God in this baking desert. I've avoided one earthly temptation after another in an effort to gain paradise. If I get there and find no cool rivers, no date trees and no beautiful chaste girls made of musk and spice to keep me company, I shall feel badly defrauded!"

In all things Mohammed was profoundly practical. When his beloved son Ibrahim died, an eclipse occured, and rumours of God's personal condolence quickly arose! Whereupon Mohammed is said to have announced, "An eclipse is a phenomenon of nature. It is foolish to attribute such things to the birth or death of a human being."

At Mohammed's own death an attempt was made to deify him, but the man who was to become his administrative successor killed the hysteria with one of the noblest speeches in religious history: "If there are any among you who worshipped Mohammed, he is dead. But if it was God you worshipped, He lives, for ever!"

Mohammed the man, was buried in an ordinary tomb whose location has always been known. The story of the floating lead coffin arose in Europe in later centuries.

These things explain why people who follow the religion of Mohammed do not like to be called "Mohammedans." Said the desert philosopher last summer: "A Christian is a man who believes that Christ was a part of God, and the central fact of his religion. A 'Mohammedan,' by analogy, would have to be a man who believed that Mohammed was likewise a part of God, and the central fact of his religion. But Mohammed was a man. He married, had children, earned a living, died and was buried in a grave like the rest of us. No learned man would worship Mohammed. It is *God* we worship. Therefore, call us Moslems—those who submit to the will of God."

I.A.M.

(To be continued.)

The Rationalist

A JUDGE'S BLUNT QUERY

That crimes are on the increase in our land cannot be denied. The causes for such a state are many and varied. Close on the heels of Independence there arose a menacing wave of crime. Communist preachings contributed not a little to its swell.

The situation is most distressing, and it is no wonder that high placed people have been very much worried. The following from the pen of K. K. Banerjee, a Judge of the Patna High Court, gives a gripping picture of the sad situation;—

I sat bolt upright when a lady said, "I have to return before 8 p.m. from the Boaring Road, as you know after that it is not safe." I did know that there were a few dacoities in that area, but had no idea of such fear created in the mind of the public. A day after I confronted a few eminent lawyers and asked them point-blank if they dared to go to their villages and stay for sometime with their family. They frankly conceded they dared not. If this is the position, and it is no good hoodwinking at it, what use is it of parades, processions and pomp in celebrating "Independence?" Is India independent in that sense of the term when every day, on opening the newspapers, you read the headlines of frightful robberies and far more terrible dacoities accompanied with murder, arson and molestation of females? Is it the vision of "Ramrajya" that we had been cherishing all along as a condition bound to happen after the withdrawal of the Britishers?

Imagine thousands of men and women living in panic in far-flung villages, miles away from a police station, creeping to their beds every night with fear of loss, torture, mutilation and death! Can any country survive this state of affairs, when law and order is being successfully hurled to destruction by gangs of criminals?

When the shadow of a German invasion was flung across the map of Great Britain, her leaders' first concern was the preservation of law and order, as without that measure the enemy's goal of sapping the morale of the nation would have been reached. Existing laws were enforced with strictness; fresh laws were introduced to be administered by chosen tribunals with the result that, although cities were reduced to heaps of debris, the people lived and carried on their work as usual, waving defiance to the roaring bombers of Goering. England realised that continued state of panic, fear and alarm was sure to make every Englishman a coward and unfit to defend his motherland.

Today, therefore, we have to deliberate if we should allow the present condition in our country to continue and thrive. Who is to blame? What steps have to be taken to combat this disease in the nation's frame? A solution to these burning questions is far more important than any five year plan—far more momentous than nationalisation of industries and erection of plants and dams.

The police—the human pincushion for all blames and censures—is not attracting yet any substantive measure of reforms. The branded bad boy remains a bad one as even his good acts are invariably interpreted against him. A low-paid police-officer, with temptation dangling before his eyes, can hardly be expected to remain pure and incorruptible. Scarcely any one thinks what important role is played by a policeman in the administration

of law and order and, eventually, in affecting the course of justice.

He is the first to arrive, first to know about the trouble, the crime, the criminal and the facts leading to the final adjudication. In other words, he is the core round which is wrapped the shining covers of magistracy and judiciary. The corrosion of this core means the paleness of the covers and probably their ultimate fragility.

The remedy, to my mind, is only by appointment of a commission to find out ways and means to raise the standard of public morality: to instil in the people the civic sense; to reform the police by amendment of the existing laws, and, if, Heaven forbid, there is any chink in the armour of the magistracy and the judiciary, to replace the same by appointing the right man at the right place.

It is a gloomy and dismal outlook today, even eight long years after the Independence. If dread of the Britishers has been replaced by the dread of the criminal, where is that freedom from fear, the highest and the most important freedom of all the four freedoms constituting real Independence?

PLURAL TROUBLE

The Superintendent of a zoo was mailing an order. He began the note, "Kindly send two mongooses." Somehow that didn't look right to him, so he started again with, "Kindly send two mongeese." Still he wasn't satisfied. Finally he settled his problem by writing, "Kindly send me a mongoose." Then he signed his name and added a PS.: "Send another one with it."

SRI N. ANANDALWAR, B.A., B.C.E.

We regret to record the death of Sri N. Anandalwar, B.A., B.C.E., retired Executive Engineer, at Bangalore on Thursday last. Born in a poor family of Melkote, he became orphan early, but with kind help from relatives he graduated in Engineering in Madras, and joined service at Nellore. When at the commencement of the century the construction of a bed-room annexe for newly wedded Maharaja Krishnaraja Wadiyar and the reconstruction of the Palace were taken up he entered Mysore service and worked in that construction. Rising in due course he was Executive Engineer for the Mysore Municipality and Trust Board. He worked later in the Chitaldrug and Shimoga Districts. Retiring about 28 years ago he devoted himself to religious studies and became deeply immersed in the Vyshnavite literature of the Alwars. He was for a time Chairman of Trustees of the Sri Yatiraja Mutt, Melkote, and president of the Malleswaram Sanskrit Pathasala. Latterly his interest in worldly affairs disappeared. He was a leading elder of the Mandayam Community. He led a simple, orthodox, religious, pious life, qualities which are becoming rare in the increasing degeneracy of the present day. He lived a good life and passed away quietly after completing 80 years. Eighty years of a good life is a remarkabe achievement. And having done it his soul has left the aged body behind, and passed into regions and experiences which are beyond our knowledge and wisdom.

He leaves behind his aged wife, and three sons, Sris N. T. Chari, B.COM, M. N. Srinivasan, B.SC. HONS., LL.B., and M. N. Krishnaswamy, M.SC., I.A.A.S.

FINNISH CIVILIZATION

(Continued from previous issue.)

In 1905, following the Russo-Japanese War, when Russia was trying to keep order at home, a general strike was proclaimed in Finland. It was so well organized, so successful, that the Czar was forced to restore the Finnish Constitution. This was the first step towards full independence, which was to come after the Russian Revolution of 1917.

In 1939 the eyes of the entire world were turned on "brave little Finland." Russia had demanded bases at the mouth of the Gulf of Finland. Finland's refusal was countered by Soviet bombers over Helsinki, and Soviet armies massed along the eastern boundary from the Arctic Ocean to the Baltic Sea.

When Finland's men and women threw themselves into the attack, the Soviet armies, to the world's amazement, could not advance! Finland's forces were outnumbered 50 to 1 in this terrible Winter War, yet the country was never occupied!

There were not enough Finnish forces or reserves to hold out indefinitely, but plenty to prove Finland would never be a Communist puppet state. Three months later the armistice was signed in which Finland lost Karelia, one of her richest farming and industrial areas.

Hardly had the people of Karelia been evacuated to Finnish soil when war broke out again. Once again the Finns were fighting the Russians—in fact, the Second World War is called in Finland "Continuation of the Winter War." Once again the Finns held their eastern border!

The armistice terms in 1944 were heavy, however: 300 million dollars' worth of heavy-industry goods to be delivered to Russia between 1944 and 1952. (Subsequently inflation almost doubled this price.)

Finland had practically no metals or heavy industry: she had to buy most of her raw materials, build factories and train workers before she could begin to pay. No time was lost lamenting. By the due date, September 19, 1952, she had made her last payment!

Today Finland feels healthy, independent and cheerful. Her paper and pulp exports have jumped, her factories are humming, her sterling and gold reserves are growing, her living standards are rising. Finnish *sisu* is intact.

What of tomorrow? Says President Paasikivi, "We have caused God so much trouble in the past, He will not desert us in the future!"

THE TEST

Here's an easy way for teenagers to find out whether they're in love, according to a psychologist.

All you have to do, girls and boys, is to ask yourself these ten questions. Answer "Yes" or "No."

1. Are there a great number of things that you like to do together?
2. Do you experience a feeling of pride when you compare your boy or girl friend with anyone else you know?
3. Do you suffer from a feeling of unrest when away from him or her?
4. Even when you quarrel, do you still enjoy being together?
5. Have you a strong desire to please him or her at all times?
6. Do you actually long to marry him or her?
7. Does he or she have the qualities you would like your children to have?
8. Do your friends admire him or her and think it would be a good match?
9. Do your parents think you are in love?
10. Have you started to plan what kind of wedding, children and home you will have?

If you can truthfully answer "Yes" to at least seven, you're really in love.

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AND THE
YADAVA DYNASTY

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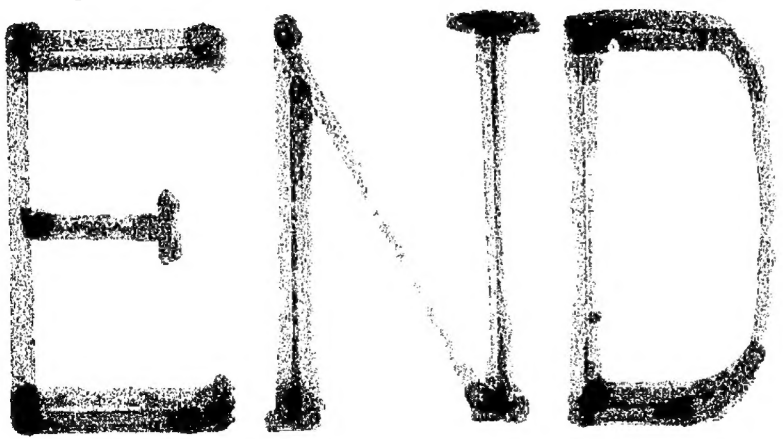
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